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THE

CHRISTIAN COMFORTER;

BEING

A COMPILATION OF FORMS OF

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS,

FOR CHRISTIANS OF ALL DENOMINATIONS—

IN TWO PARTS.

PART I. Contains Fifty-six Forms of Morning and Evening Prayers: To which are added Devout Exercises of the mind for Communicants, before and after partaking of our Lord's Supper.

PART II. Comprehends Forms of Prayers and Thanksgiving Adapted for Christians in different Conditions of their Mortal Pilgrimage.

BY A FRIEND TO FAMILY DEVOTION.

"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them." Matth. ch. 18 v. 20.
"And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord, shall be saved." Acts ch. 2. v. 21.

KINGSTON:
PRINTED BY JOHN TAPPEN,
AT HIS BOOKSTORE, OPPOSITE THE POST-OFFICE.

1820.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW-YORK, ss.

Be it Remembered, That on the twenty-sixth day of July, in the Forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America, John Tappen of the said District, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as Proprietor, in the words and figures following, to wit:

"The Christian Comforter, being a Compilation of forms of Prayers and Thanksgivings, for Christians of all Denominations—In Two Parts. Part I. Contains fifty-six Forms of Morning and Evening Prayers: to which are added Devout Exercises of the mind for Communicants, before and after partaking of our Lord's Supper. Part II. Comprehends Forms of Prayers and Thanksgiving, adapted for Christians in different conditions of their mortal Pilgrimage. By a Friend to Family Devotion. "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them." Matth. ch 18, v. 20. "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord, shall be saved."—Acts ch. 2, v. 21.

"In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States, entitled "An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the time therein mentioned." And also to an Act, entitled "and Act, supplementary to an Act, entitled an Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving and etching historical and other prints."

GILBERT L. THOMPSON,
Clerk of the Southern District of New-York.

PREFACE.

THE reader will find in the following pages *Fifty-Six* forms of Morning and Evening *Prayers;* calculated for the use and comfort of Christian families, for the mornings and evenings of *Four Weeks.* These are stated, to have been partly collected from the "most esteemed authors," but principally to consist of "original compositions," communicated to the former compiler, by different Clergymen;" to which were added some occasional forms of prayers and thanksgivings.

The whole were embodied in an octave volume of about 300 pages, and published by "A Friend to Family Devotion," in London (England) in the year 1781.—The prayers therein contained for the King and Royal family, have been omitted, and others substituted, suitable for Christians in the United States of America. A few other alterations and omissions, suggested by pious persons, with a view to enhance the spirituality of this work, while preserving its orthodoxy, have also arrested the attention of the present Compiler: and with the same view, as also the more to enrich this collection, he has added some approved forms of prayers and thanksgiving, from other authors. To give this valuable depository of christian comfort the definite character it so richly merits, and the better to adapt it for the use of Christians, the present Compiler has deemed it proper to arrange it in Two Parts. To Part I. will be found appended devout ejaculations, meditations and exercises of the mind, for communicants, before and after partaking our Lord's Supper, with suitable forms of prayers

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and thanksgivings, previous and subsequent to that solemn occasion. The Lord's Prayer will also be found in addition to the first morning prayer, and may be added to every other prayer the reader sees fit. In part II. are comprehended forms that are intended to enlighten and comfort believers, in various allotments of God's providence. The present compiler has been induced to think that the *Two Parts* conjoined cannot be more properly distinguished, than as the CHRISTIAN COMFORTER; and has accordingly appropriated that name. Its style and sentiments, it is presumed, will command universal approbation of the same, in the Christian world. When it is considered that there is not, at present, any family prayer book, of any peculiar merit or interest, in circulation, in this part of the country, except "Jenks Devotion," which was composed many years ago, and may, perhaps, not be calculated for the consolation and edification of all classes of our religious community, it is expected that the "*Christian Comforter*" will, at least, be favorably accepted by some of them Nay, should it only have a partial effect, in erecting family altars, dedicated to the Parent of the Universe, and enlisting sinners under the banners of the Cross, its object will be supposed to have been accomplished.

We shall close our own prefatory observations, by quoting the language of a celebrated writer, on the duties of prayer. He says—"No sooner is the child born, than he breathes; no sooner is Paul converted, than, behold! he prays. O incomparable privilege! to be allowed to pour complaints into the ear of God—cast our cares upon him—plead our performance of his promise, and devolve the burthen of our wants and sorrows on his compassion and all-sufficiency! The prayer of faith has won

more numerous and more noble victories, than all the mighty conquerors since war was taught among the nations. Prayer is the muster of all the graces. It is the key of heaven. Elijah prayed, and it was locked; again he prayed, and it was opened. It is the ambassador of the renewed soul—the trumpet of faith—the support of the weak—the employ of the expectant of glory—and the daily exercise of the Christian. It is like a pully, that draws the soul up to heaven; and like a golden pipe plunged into that river which proceeds out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, and conveys the blessing down into the soul below. When Job prayed, God turned his captivity; when Jacob wrestled in prayer, he obtained the blessing; when Elijah and Solomon prayed, the fire fell and consumed the sacrifice; when Paul and Barnabas prayed and *sang praises*, the prison was shaken, the doors opened, and every ones bands loosed; and while the church prayed for Peter, an angel set him at liberty. By all which it appears, that God will be enquired after by prayer, and will work wonders for humble supplicants." And we add, that, the neglect of prayer may tend to sink our souls in the dark gulph of ruin and despair. When Peter, but for a moment, let go the prayer of faith, beginning to sink, he was constrained to exclaim, "*Lord* save me;" Jesus rebuking him: "*O* thou of little faith! wherefore didst thou doubt?"

With respect to the following Prayers, we choose to convey to the public the account of them, drawn up by the Collector:

"I wish the reader to be acquainted, that the greater number of these prayers was given me in manuscript by different clergymen, for my own use. They have never been in print, and were not originally intended for

publication. Some of them were composed purposely to suit my own circumstances—and a few were compiled from various authors, to make out the number for four weeks, as I was much importuned to give them to the public.

"I have no view in publishing these prayers, but, by adding a new variety, to give encouragement and assistance to social, devout family worship. My wish and prayer is,—that those, who have neglected it, may be prevailed upon to begin, and to keep it up steadily for the future—that those, who have dropped it, may resume it again—and that those, who have always practised this duty, may be encouraged to persist in it, and not to suffer any avocations whatsoever, to set aside the morning and evening sacrifices of prayer and praise,

"And here, I cannot forbear introducing, what the great and good Archbishop Tillotson said on this subject, in his sermon upon prayer.—"The constant worship of God in our families, (by prayer every morning and evening) is so necessary, to keep alive, and to maintain a sense of God and of religion in the minds of men, that, where it is neglected, I do not see, how any family can, in reason, be esteemed a family of Christians, or indeed, to have any religion at all." Vol. 1. p. 480.

"I hope these forms will be of some assistance to sincere Christians, in the performance of family-worship—and help to prevent the influence of those bad examples of carelessness and indifference about religion, and the worship of God, which are become so common and fashionable in the present age. O may it be the language and resolution of every head of a family, 'Whatever others do, we and our houses will serve the Lord!'

"To his blessing and protection, I would recommend

them and their habitations—praying, that the Most High may dwell with them and their's, and encompass them with his favor, as with a shield. To HIM be glory in all the churches, and in all the families of the faithful—by JESUS CHRIST, throughout all ages, world without end, *Amen*.

ON PRAYER.

Prayer is the souls sincere desire,
Utter'd or unexpressed;
The motion of a hidden fire,
That trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
The falling of a tear;
The upward glancing of an eye,
When none but God is near.

Prayer is the simplest form of speech,
That infant lips can try;
Prayer the sublimest strains that reach
The Majesty on high.

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christians native air;
His watchword at the gates of death,
He enters Heaven with prayer.

Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,
Returning from his ways;
While angels in their song rejoice,
And cry, "behold he prays."

In prayer on earth, the saints are one
In word, in deed, in mind;
When with the Father and the Son
Sweet fellowship they find.

Nor prayer is made on earth alone,
The Holy Spirit pleads;
And Jesus on the eternal throne
For sinners intercedes.

O Thou, by whom we come to God,
The Life, the Truth, the Way!
The path of prayer thyself hast trod,
Lord teach us how to pray.

THE

CHRISTIAN COMFORTER.

PART I.

WEEK I.

SUNDAY MORNING.

"Christ, the Lord, is risen to-day,
Sons of men and angels say;
Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply."

O God, the supreme Lord and universal Parent, we come before thee, believing that thou art, and that thou art the rewarder of all such, as diligently seek thee. Convinced of thy glorious and amiable perfections, thy boundless dominion, and righteous government of the world created by thy power, we would, with sentiments of reverence and humility, pay unto thee our social homage and worship this morning of thy day. We would unite in devout and grateful acknowledgments of thy being, thy power, thy providence and goodness. All thy works, O Lord, in all places of thy dominion, bless and praise thee. They exhibit the clearest proofs of thine existence; and, to every attentive mind, convey the most venerable and endearing ideas of the beauty and harmony of thy creation; yea, the heavens declare thy glory and the earth sheweth forth thy handy works.—

Day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night teacheth knowledge of thee.

The numberless streams of blessings, which are continually flowing every where around us, abundantly prove, that thou art the only original fountain of life and happiness. They illustrate and display thine unsearchable greatness, thine unerring wisdom, and thy diffusive and inexhaustible goodness. We rejoice with our whole hearts, that thou the Lord reignest: and unto thee, the father of mercies, would we pay our humble tribute of thanksgiving, for thy numerous and important favors to the children of men; and, in an especial manner, for that abundant experience, which we ourselves have had, of thy loving kindness, and tender mercies.—To thee we are indebted for life, breath and all things. All we are, all we have, and all we can enjoy, depend on thee. Thy providence is ever kind and large. How precious are thy thoughts unto us, O God! How great is the sum of them! The excellent frame of our bodies, and the noble powers of our souls; the various comforts of life: the bread we eat, the raiment we put on, the comfortable habitations in which we dwell; the pleasures of society and friendship; the blessings of religious and civil liberty; and all the means of improvement in holiness and happiness which we derive from the gospel of Jesus, all flow from thy bountiful hand, and demand our gratitude and praise.

Before thee would we now, with humble and penitent hearts, lament and resolve to reform whatever we know to be contrary to thy holy will, and righteous laws. We confess, with

shame and sorrow, that we have, in too many instances, neglected our duty, and done those things, which we ought not to have done. We have been ungrateful to thee, our kind benefactor; and so inattentive to our own interest and happiness, as, in many cases justly to incur thy displeasure, by the transgression of thy most holy laws. Our only hope of pardon is in thine everlasting goodnes and mercy; especially, as manifested by Jesus Christ our Lord. It is because thou hast no pleasure in the death of sinners, but are more willing that they should repent and live; and because thy compassions fail not, that we are not consumed. We rejoice that the amiableness of thy nature, the general course of thy providence, and the whole strain of the gospel of Jesus, conspire to afford us the entire satisfaction of the forgiveness of sin, upon the reasonable terms of repentance and amendmend of life. We rejoice that we have an advocate with our heavenly Father, even Jesus, the righteous, who has been in all things tempted like as we are, yet without sin, who knows our frames, and remembers that we are but dust, who condescends to pity our weaknesses and follies, and has assured us that he will in no wise cast off the humble penitent, who is sorry for his offences and desirous to amend his ways.

We therefore, O Lord, feel encouraged to appear before thee, as reconciled through the intercession of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and to make known unto thee our petitions.

We would now earnestly implore thy pardon of our manifold offences; and intreat thy gra-

cious assistance, that we may never deceive ourselves with the hope of forgiveness, without true repentance, nor vainly expect final acceptance, without sincere obedience. May it be our determined resolution to do the things, which are lawful and right; and do thou establish and prosper every pious, and virtuous porpose of our souls. May we be more and more confirmed in our attachment to our duty; and be continually improving in our love of thee, in our trust and confidence in thy watchful providence, and in humble and patient submission to all thine afflictive dispensations.

Assist us, O God, this day, to worship thee, and to attend to the ministrations of thy word, with sincerity. May we enter thy house with proper dispositions and views. May an ardent thirst after righteousness, and a strong desire of improvement, in every thing excellent and praise worthy, ever attend our religious exercises. May a spirit of genuine piety and mutual benevolence fill our breasts. And may it be our constant concern, to form our temper, and to regulate our conduct, according to the precepts of that holy religion, which we profess.

Blessed be God, for setting apart, one day in seven, from worldly cares and business, to thy more immediate worship and service. Aid us by thy spirit, we beseech thee, to make a right use of the seasons and means of grace, which are so frequently returning upon us; that, in the practice of them, we may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We are sensible of our own backwardness to

spiritual exercises—But do thou, O Lord, enlighten, raise, and quicken us. Enlarge our souls with holy and good affections. Let our hearts be fixed, that we may serve thee without distraction. May we join with all Christians, this day, in pure and fervent devotion, in prayers, and praises, and attendance upon the ordinances of thine house. May we hear the word preached, with due attention, and with a desire to profit thereby. Assist thy ministers, in delivering thy word, and thy people, in hearing it. And grant, that we may all so well perform the duties of thy sabbaths on earth, that we may be well prepared to keep a never ending sabbath, in thy heavenly kingdom above.

And grant O Lord that the various means of improvement, which we enjoy, may contribute to our progress, in the ways of piety and holiness. May they strengthen and confirm us, in our obedience to thy laws. May they inspire us with an ardent zeal for thy glory, for the success of thy kingdom under Christ Jesus, and for the happiness of society. And, may these our religious services meet with thy blessing and acceptance. May they be conducive to our peace of mind, at present, and prepare us for the happiness of the heavenly world, and with the spirits of just men made perfect.

Our Father, who art in Heaven: Hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And, forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that tresspass against us. And, lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For, thine is the

Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever. *Amen.*

SUNDAY EVENING.

O Holy and most merciful God! We are the creatures of thy wisdom, power and goodness; we are the constant charge of thy kind providence; and we have been instructed in the ways of righteousness, and redeemed from ignorance and vice, by thy beloved Son. Sensible of the grateful returns we owe thee, our Heavenly Father, for these favors, we humbly present ourselves before thee this evening, to render our tribute of sincere and grateful worship.

The perfections of thy nature, and constant daily renewal of thy mercies, demand our veneration, confidence and love. And we esteem ourselves happy in being capable of holding communion with thee, our God. We trust that this communion will have a tendency to exalt our minds; to render us superior to the trifling concerns of this present life; and to inspire us with those pious affections and worthy dispositions, which will qualify us for the enjoyment of that eternal felicity, to the hope of which we are raised by the gospel of thy son Jesus Christ.—As every passing day brings us nearer to our last, grant, heavenly Father, that the close of every day, thus employed may promote our preparation for the enjoyment of eternal bliss.

How great, O Lord, is thy goodness! How great is thy mercy!—Thou dispensest to us the

many undeserved blessings of this life, not as our portion, but as accommodations in our way to a better world; and as excitements to that grateful piety, and generous charity, which will prepare us to receive and to enjoy the infinitely superior blessings of the heavenly state.—Praised be that goodness, which, by appointing our birth and education amidst the light and grace of the Gospel, hath taught us the value of present things—hath taught us so to improve a life, which is passing away, as that it may introduce us to a life divine and everlasting. Praised be thy name O Lord! that while many inhabitants of our earth yet live in the gloom of superstition, worshipping stocks and stones, the works of men's hands, thou hast revealed to us the precious truths of that gospel, by which life and immortality have been brought to light. O make us duly sensible of the value of that liberty wherewith Christ hath made his people free.—May we walk worthily of our high vocation.

Blessed be thy holy name for Jesus Christ, whom thou wast pleased to send into this world, to preach, live, and die, that he might save us from our sins, and restore to us the image of thy moral perfections. How divine are his instructions! How perfect his rules and example!—How just, reasonable, and necessary his terms of acceptance with thee, our God!—How clear and strong are the evidences which he gave, that he was indeed commissioned by Thee, for the gracious purpose of restoring us from darkness to light, and of blessing mankind at large, by turning them from their iniquities! The integrity and innocence of his life—the number of his

miracles—the manner of his dying—the glory of his resurrection—his visible ascension—the gifts of the spirit—the wonderful success of his gospel—and the accomplishment of his predictions;—all concur, to establish our belief in his divine mission, and to give us peace and hope in believing.

Help us, O Lord, whenever we peruse his gospel, to attend to the peculiar design and end of it;—and, may it be our earnest desire to cultivate those graces and virtues, which are there recommended; and which the great Author of it accounted the glory of his own life.—Particularly assist us, we beseech thee, to acquire and exercise a steady faith and trust in Thee, and a sincere love and good-will to all our brethren of mankind. May humility and charity adorn our whole behaviour. May we rejoice in doing good, and be always ready to forgive unmerited injuries. May the power of thy grace concur with the gospel of thy Son to subdue every evil inclination, and to confirm every pious and virtuous resolution—to purify our affections, and to change our souls into a resemblance of the divine image. Under the influence of the divine grace, may we be enabled to keep always a good conscience, both towards God and towards man; to be ever upright and sincere in our devotions; just and charitable in our dealings; and sober and temperate, in the government of yourselves. Constantly opposing our own inclinations, whenever they oppose our duty, may we thus adorn the doctrine of JESUS CHRIST our Saviour; making it appear unto all men, that we are indeed the faithful disciples of our blessed Master, and

are influenced in our conduct by the glorious promises of that gospel, which we profess to believe.

Pardon, gracious God, the defects and imperfections of our services, during the past day — Preserve us from all evil and danger through the ensuing night; and answer the requests of our souls, as far as they are just, wise, and reasonable;—as far as they are agreeable to the laws of eternal rectitude, the purposes of thy providence, and the holiness of thy gospel. Assist us to persevere in an uniform course of Christian obedience, all our days; and grant, that we may be continually improving in useful knowledge, amiable dispositions and good habits.—And, in consequence of these attainments, may we be enabled to meet death, without terror or alarm—to appear with humble confidence before thy face, on the awful day of judgment—and be afterwards admitted to mansions of eternal felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. In his name, and as his disciples, we desire to ascribe unto Thee, the Father of all the Families upon earth, immortal honors, and universal praises. *Amen.*

MONDAY MORNING.

Almighty and most merciful Father! We would ever esteem intercourse with Thee, the author of our being, and the giver of every good and perfect gift, as the great joy and consolation of our lives. Sensible of our entire dependence

on thy providence—grateful for our past experience of thy goodness—and confiding in thy future care, we would, this morning, as becomes reasonable creatures, and professed Christians, humbly worship thy divine Majesty.

We adore thee, a Being of absolute perfection; glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, a God doing wonders. The Gods of the nations are dumb idols. but our God is the Lord, who created the heavens and the earth. and whose dominion extends over the universe. We rejoice in thy government over us. We rejoice, that such a being, as Thou, presidest over universal nature, directing all causes, disposing all events, and making all things work together for good, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

We acknowledge our obligation to thy goodness, for life and breath, and all things. We praise and bless thee, for the powers of our bodies, the faculties of our minds, our various temporal comforts, and all the advantages, which we have enjoyed, and do still enjoy for the attainment of spiritual excellence, and the security of solid and permanent felicity.

Especially, would we call upon our souls and all that is within us, to adore and bless thy goodness, that we have been favored with the perfect institution of the gospel. We thank Thee, with our whole hearts, for that grace, mercy, and truth, which came by Jesus Christ, assuring pardon, acceptance, and eternal life to the penitent, sincere and faithful.

Heavenly Father! We are ashamed and grieved, that we have not acted more suitably

to our obligations and privileges. Mercifully pardon whatever thy pure and holy eyes may have seen amiss in us the past part of life; and graciously assist us for the time to come, to rectify what was wrong, and to make our hearts and ways more pleasing in thy sight, more conformable to thine ordinances, and the institutions of thy solemn worship. May it be our sincere desire, and constant endeavor to render a willing obedience to the dispensations of thy providence, and to follow thee, with the same constancy, through good report and bad report, always abounding in the works of the Lord; relying that no good thing wilt thou withhold from them that walk uprightly.

May no temptations, whatsoever they may be, prevail upon us to transgress the laws of Thee, our God. May we hate vice with a perfect hatred, as the worst of evils;—May we ever esteem the virtuous and Christian part, as the only wise and happy choice. And, from a sincere and faithful behaviour, in the station appointed us by thy Providence, may we derive real comfort and satisfaction all our days;—and be encouraged to trust in thine unchangeable and perfect goodness, for every suitable blessing in the present state, and to hope for complete and endless happiness, in a future world.

We would cherish, O God, a tender regard to the whole human race; and we humbly recommend the interests of all mankind to Thee, our common parent. May thy blessings, both temporal and spiritual, be continued to every rational creature, on the face of the whole earth.—May they be cheerfully accepted, gratefully ac-

knowledged, and wisely improved. May thy good Providence open a way for the increasing prevalence of truth and righteousness. To this end, may the everlasting gospel be more extensively propagated, in its original purity and simplicity.

Bless we beseech thee, O Lord, all bible and missionary societies, and all the means adopted by the faithful followers of Jesus, to extend the knowledge of his gospel among the heathens.—May the solitary place be made glad with the messages of his salvation, and the wilderness to rejoice and blossom as the rose. May all the ends of the earth see the salvation of our Lord, and Jesus become king of nations as he is king of saints May the reign of righteousness among the princes of the world, in all places, supplant that of terror and superstition, and all rulers and magistrates be mindful that righteousness exalteth a nation, but that sin is a reproach to any people.

Bless, O Lord, the United States of America, the land of our nativity. O may thy word and ordinances universally prevail in these states and be glorified. Here, prosper all the means of the true followers of Jesus, for promoting the interests of Zion, and extending the boundaries of our Redeemer's kingdom. Here, in this goodly heritage, which thou hast given us, together with the rich blessings of civil and religious privileges, may our grateful hearts not cease to meditate thy praise, and our tongues to celebrate the glories of the God of our salvation. Subdue, we beseech thee, all the endeavors of the wicked to establish the kingdom of Satan and his works of

darkness among us. Preserve us from that spirit of infidelity, which denies the God of our fathers, and exposes us to his wrath and judgments. Keep this nation, O Lord, in thy fear, and teach its rulers wisdom. Grant, we pray thee, thy blessing to the President of the United States of America, and the constituted civil authorities of this country. Bless all our magistrates, from the highest to the lowest. Impress the solemn and important fact on each of their minds, that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and teach them to dispense justice according to equity, and as accountable beings.

In tender mercy, O God, regard all, who are in distress of mind, of body, or of outward estate. Be the father of the fatherless, and plead the cause of the widow. Be the everlasting support of those, who call upon thy name; and do good unto all, as their various cases and circumstances may require.

We render thee, O Father, our sincere thanks for our preservation during the last night. We laid ourselves down to sleep; and, blessed be thy name, we have arisen in safety. We recommend ourselves to thy protection, the ensuing day. May we walk in thy fear, all the day long. In all our thoughts, words, and actions, may we endeavor to approve ourselves in thy sight; and, by a stedfast continuance in well-doing, may be prepared for all events. When that most awful event, Death, shall arrive, and we be called from the present state of existence, grant, merciful God, that we may depart in peace, and be admitted to spend the happy days of eternity in that kingdom, which Thou, the

great Father of the Universe, hast prepared for the righteous, from the foundation of the world.

Now, unto Thee, the only wise God, be glory through Jesus Christ, for ever. *Amen.*

MONDAY EVENING.

INFINITELY great, most wise, and ever gracious Father in Heaven! Thy perfections and providence justly claim the first and highest regard of our hearts. We are sensible, that we are dependent creatures—that we are continually partaking of thy bounty, and enjoying, thro' thy favor, life, and breath, and all things. We desire, therefore this evening, as a reasonable act of family religion, and a means of establishing and improving the spirit of piety, to express those devout and grateful sentiments, which it becomes us ever to entertain of thee, our Creator, Preserver and Benefactor.

We adore thee, as the one, only living and true God, the supreme Lord of universal nature, who art every where present, every where active.—Thou canst not be confined within any place.—The whole creation is under thine immediate inspection, and providence. Thou directest the series of events; and, with resistless power, unerring wisdom, and perfect goodness, conductest all things for the best. We rejoice in thy government; and, resting our souls on thine unchangeable perfections, and everlasting providence, we would rely, with entire confidence, on

thy protection, and humbly resign ourselves to thy guidance and disposal.

Accept, gracious God this expression of our gratitude, for that large experience, which we have enjoyed, of thy divine goodness, ever since thou conferredst upon us the blessing of existence. Great and manifold have been thy favors to us, O God! To thy liberal benignity we would thankfully ascribe all our powers, both of body and mind; every agreeable and advantageous circumstance of our being; all our temporal blessings, and all our christian privileges. May a due sense of thy paternal love endear thy government to us, and render us thy free and willing subjects. May obedience to the sacred laws of thy kingdom ever be our voluntary choice, and inward delight. Merciful Father! when we consider the tender concern, which thou hast manifested for our happiness, and the reasonableness and excellence of what thou, the Lord, requirest from us, we are ashamed and grieved, that we have been so unmindful of thy goodness, and so careless in the observance of thy precepts. Graciously pardon all our neglects and transgressions, through Christ Jesus our Lord.—And, that we may, upon sure ground, entertain the hope of thy forgiveness and favour, assist us, we beseech thee, to be more steady and uniform in our future obedience. May we ever abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good. Under a strong conviction of the baseness, the folly, and the misery of vice, may every vicious practice be the object of our utter aversion: and, may a lively sense of the excellence of religion, and the beauty and com-

fort of thy ways, lead us to pursue thy paths; knowing, O Lord, that all thy ways are ways of pleasantness, and all thy paths, peace. May we never be weary of well doing. And, may the precious fruits and happy effects of our imperfect righteousness, be comfortable reflections and joyful hopes—peace, quietness, and assurance of God's love and favor forever.

Unto thee, the benevolent parent of mankind, would we humbly recommend the various interests of the human race; beseeching thee to promote, as the greatest of blessings, the universal knowledge and practice of pure undefiled religion. May ignorance, imposture, and slavery for ever cease; and all nations be blessed with truth liberty, and equal government.—May all professing christians be firmly persuaded of the truth and excellence of the gospel: may they receive it with veneration, gratitude, and love; feel its transforming influence; and bring forth the fruit suitable to it in a life of sincere, constant, and universal obedience;—such fruit, such obedience, as will redound to thy glory, to the good of society, and their own everlasting salvation. Bless our native country. Prosper commerce, agriculture, arts and sciences, and all our religious, moral and literary institutions. May magistrates administer justice in the fear of God; and, may our ministers of religion faithfully inculcate the important doctrine of a crucified Saviour, who became poor, that we by his poverty might be made rich, who was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities, endured the chastisement of our peace, and healed us by his painful stripes. O Lord, make us du-

ly sensible of the value of redeeming love.—May Jesus be exceedingly precious to our souls and, as one of a thousand, altogether lovely.—May our meditations on the richness of his grace be sweet and frequent; and may we delight supremely in his worship. Support and comfort the afflicted; supply the wants of the poor; be the refuge of the oppressed, and the defence of the fatherless, and the widow,

And now, O Lord, accept our grateful acknowledgments of thy goodness to us through the day past. Take us under thy protection, the ensuing night. May we be accounted worthy of thy watchful providence, so shall we be safe.—Under the friendly shadow of thy wings, may we rest comfortably. Bless us at all times, upon all occasions, in all respects, and by all means. Enable us, in whatever condition or circumstances thy providence may place us, whether prosperous or adverse, always to be therein contented, trusting in thy Fatherly care and providece, that as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth all them that love him. May the testimony of our consciences ever be, that, in simplicity, and godly sincerity, we have had our conversation in the world. May this be our present reward; and when our departure draweth nigh, may the same conscientious, and firm trust in thee our God, cheer and comfort us in the awful hour of death. Finally, may an entrance be abundantly ministered unto us into thy heavenly kingdom of glory and felicity, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

TUESDAY MORNING.

Most glorious Lord our God! We come before thee this morning, desiring to ascribe unto thee almighty, irresistible power, and perfect, everlasting goodness. By thy power were the heavens made, and all the hosts of them by the breath of thy mouth. The vast system of nature is constantly sustained, and guided by thine hand, and is a standing display of omnipotence, not less striking, than its original production.

We more especially celebrate, and rejoice in, thine impartial, universal, eternal goodness.—This gives the greatest lustre to all thine other attributes, and completes the glory of thy character. Thus, thine almighty power, unlimited presence, and everlasting duration become the sure support of universal order, good, and happiness, and the solid foundation of rational comfort, satisfaction and joy. Thou art the father of mercies, good unto all, not willing that any should perish, but turn from the evil of his ways and live; affording to all the means of happiness, ever ready to accept the truly penitent, and determined most liberally to reward the sincerely upright.

All nature bears testimony to thy great and universal benevolence; therefore, are we ashamed of the baseness of our ingratitude, and would most humbly acknowlege our unworthiness before thee, our righteous governor and judge.—We confess, O Lord with shame and confusion of face, that we all have sinned and come short

of the glory of God—that we have not made a proper use of our rational faculties, and a suitable application of our Christian light and knowledge. If thou wert extreme to mark our faults, and to punish us with unlimited rigour, according to our demerits, O God, who could stand before thee? yea, the best of us might tremble before a God, glorious in holiness and fearful in praises. But we entertain far more amiable, and more encouraging sentiments of thy divine character. We question not thy readiness to consider our frame, to overlook our involuntary errors, and to pardon, even our wilful transgressions, if we sincerely repent of them, heartily endeavour to correct what is amiss, and maintain a future better obedience.——Blessed be thy name, that thou hast given us so full, and satisfactory a display of thy pardoning mercy, in the gospel of Jesus Christ. In his name, as his disciples, and on the reasonable, and gracious conditions of his gospel, we now humbly and earnestly implore the forgiveness of all those instances of temper and conduct, which have been offensive in thy sight, disapproved by our own reason and conscience, unworthy our rational nature and christian profession, and contrary to the eternal laws of truth and righteousness. We desire seriously to renounce all farther intercourse with whatever we know to be displeasing to thee; heartily resolving to make it our constant endeavour to correct every vicious inclination and evil habit, and to become more careful and uniform in our obedience to thy most holy laws;—which, we acknowledge, ought ever to be held most sacred and inviola-

ble, on account of thy just authority over us, their own intrinsic excellence, and the awful and important sanctions annexed to them. We entreat thy gracious assistance, to fortify us against temptations, and to rectify any disorders, under which our souls may labour, through past indulgences. Be present with us, in every hour of difficulty and danger ; assist us in cultivating a devotional frame of mind ; and inspire us with such sentiments, as shall give stability to our christian character, and render us happy.

May our piety towards thee, our God, manifest itself in humble veneration, joyful gratitude, fixed trust, placid submission, and cheerful obedience. May our love to mankind inspire us with the most ardent wishes for the good and happiness of all. Dispose us to do justly, to love mercy, and to exercise candor, forbearance and forgiveness, in the whole of our intercourse with the world.—Enable us to support a proper rule over our own spirits, to keep our appetites and passions in due subjection, and to walk at liberty, the delightful paths of wisdom and piety; trusting that as we have here no abiding city, there remaineth a rest for the people of God beyondt he grave. We would consider it, O Lord, our chief happiness, that when our earthly house of this tabernacle shall be dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. O enable us then to labor not only for the meat that perisheth, but for that which endureth to eternal life—to walk at liberty, as the redeemed of the Lord, remembering that we are not our own, but were ransomed with the precious blood of

Christ;and that we are bound to honor thee, the Lord, with our bodies and spirits, which are there.

As we know not what is good for us in this life, we know not what to ask. It is our great happiness, that we ourselves, and all things that can concern us,are in thine hands, who infallibly knowest, what is fittest and best for us, and hast a more than paternal regard for us.—We, therefore, pray thee,O Lord,to appoint unto us such outward circumstances, as will most effectually secure our spiritual interest here, and our everlasting happiness hereafter.

We would ever cherish in our hearts the most grateful sentiments towards thee, our heavenly father, for all thy mercies to us, both of a temporal, and spiritual nature; and particularly, at this time, we thankfully acknowledge thy goodness to this family, in preserving us through the past night,and permitting us to see the light of another day, in such comfortable circumstances. We entreat thy gracious preservation of us and ours through the dangers, temptations, difficulties, and employments of this day also: and through all the remaining days of our continuance in this world. And may we be finally qualified for, and received to, thy kingdom of glory and immortality, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

TUESDAY EVENING.

O God, the Father of the families of the whole earth, we adore and bless thee for that goodness, which diffuseth so many blessings through the creation; which affords such abundant means of enjoyment and happiness, supplies the wants of all living creatures, and is a never-failing spring of comfort and felicity. Thou art good, and doest good continually. Thy mercies are over all thy works. The general course of thy providence is full of love; and the temporal and eternal comfort and happiness of mankind have been, in an extraordinary manner, the objects of thy benevolent concern. We bless and praise thee for thy great goodness to us. We bless and praise thee for the original gift of existence; for the wonderful frame of our bodies, and the excellent and noble powers of our minds; for our capacities for intellectual, social, moral, and divine pleasures; for the constant benefits of protection and support; and for all the advantages, comforts and blessings, which we have enjoyed, and do enjoy, under thy gracious providence.

With the most endearing lustre doth thy goodness shine, in that most illustrious act of favour to the children of men, the mission of thy well beloved Son Jesus Christ. We thank thee, with our whole hearts, that in the fullness of time, thou wast pleased to send him into the world to bless mankind, by turning them from their iniquities; to deliver to them the most excellent instructions, and exhibit to their view

the most perfect example, that he might invite, encourage, and assist their return to the knowledge and worship of thee, the true God, and the practice of universal righteousness, and thus restore them to the enjoyment of that happiness, which they had justly forfeited by their own folly and disobedience. How great is thy goodness! How great is thy mercy! May we ever maintain a grateful sense of thy loving kindness, cheerfully acquiesce in all the dispensations of thy providence, and endeavour to do thy will in all things, with delight.

Heavenly Father! when we seriously and impartially reflect upon our past temper and conduct, we find no small reason for shame and grief. We desire to acknowledge, with becoming sentiments of humility and penitence, that we have behaved very dishonorably to ourselves, and ungratefully towards thee, our God, far beneath what might reasonably be expected from those noble powers, with which thou hast dignified our natures, and unsuitably to the important privileges, with which thy divine providence hath favoured us. We humble ourselves in thy presence, penitently confessing our unworthiness and guilt: and sincerely purposing to act a wiser, and more grateful and obedient part, for the future, we most earnestly pray for the forgiveness of all our offences, in the name of Jesus Christ, thy Son and our Saviour. Purify us, we beseech thee, and render us fit for thy service.

Search us, O Lord, and try us, and see if there be any evil way in us, and lead in the way that is everlasting: create in us clean hearts,

and renew upright spirits within us. Give us a clear, impressing view of all important, interesting truth; and help us to acquire all the engaging qualities, and to abound in all the useful expressions, of true and genuine goodness. May our souls be filled with all the sentiments and dispositions of a pure, rational, and effectual devotion. May we fear thee, as our God and Judge; love thee as our best friend; confide in thy care and benignity; trust in thy gracious promises; and calmly submit in all things to thy most righteous will.—May we embrace the whole human species, with a tender affection, and cheerfully promote the good of society, as far as our influence can extend.—May we thus act in concert with all the pious and the good, with angels and ministering spirits, and with the glorious Son of God, who went about doing good. May we thus, by an upright, virtuous conduct, be prepared for all events in this world, and enabled to meet death with a well grounded hope, and satisfaction of mind, and at last, become blessed inheritors of eternal life.

To thy perfect goodness, O God, all thanks and praise are due, for our preservation through the past day; for the many comforts we have experienced, the dangers we have escaped, and the constant supplies of every needful good.—Pity those who want the many blessings, which we enjoy. Help us to make the best use of our various advantages; and dispose us to give all the assistance in our power to those who stand in need of it. Graciously guard us, our habitation, and all our dear connections, from the dangers of the night. Bless our sleep to our refresh-

ment, and restore us to the light and comforts of another morning, with hearts cheerfully and thankfully disposed to our duty, and further usefulness in life. Amidst all our trials, may we ever retain that richest of all our possessions, the conscience void of offence towards thee, our God, and our fellow men. Conduct us by thy kind hand, through all the changing scenes of life, in the sacred paths of piety; and finally receive us into mansions of eternal rest and felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O MOST glorious and holy Lord our God! with reverence and godly fear would we this morning come into thy presence, to pay our social homage unto thee, the Lord our maker.—Worthy art thou to receive blessing and praise, from the whole intelligent creation. In thy all perfect character, all possible excellencies centre. From thy liberal goodness all blessings flow.

We esteem, it O Lord, the greatest privilege and glory of our natures, that thou hast formed us capable of knowing thee and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent; thereby opening to us a never failing source of hope, consolation and happiness.

O may not our worship be a merely formal thing. Help us to engage in religious exercises with understanding, with inward devotion, and

genuine piety of heart, knowing that religious worship can only be acceptable to God, and beneficial to ourselves, as it is the exercise, and contributes to the improvement, of good disposition in our minds. Establish our hearts in the fear of God. And may this restrain us from every criminal pursuit, as well as engage us to the sincere habitual practice of universal righteousness.

We must acknowledge, O Lord, with a truly penitent concern, that we have, in many instances, acted unsuitably to our state and character, undutifully to thee, our supreme sovereign, and very inconsistently with our christian obligations. Our only hope is in thy goodness. Thy goodness, O our father, will, we trust, pardon those transgressions, of which we sincerely repent, and graciously accept of an upright obedience to thy gospel, for the time to come.

May the full assurances thou hast given us, that thou wilt not remember against them the former offences of such, as sincerely return to their duty and allegiance, lead us to repentance.—May thy long-suffering and mercy effectually prevail upon us, to renounce whatever is contrary to thy holy laws, and make it our great endeavour, to behave agreeably to the dictates and obligations of true religion and the spirit of thy holy ordinances, for the future. Help us, O Lord, to root out all evil habits, to vanquish temptations, to establish right affections, and to strengthen religious principles, in our hearts.—May we have such an impression of thy fear, such a sense of the excellence of thy laws, such a love of goodness, such a respect to the recom-

pence of reward, such regard to the rules, and such a value for the hope of the gospel, as shall make us disdain every sinful compliance, and prefer the doing our duty, to every other consideration. May these noble principles raise us above the slavery of vice, and preserve us constant and uniform in our regards to the dictates of conscience and the sacred laws of heaven.

Assist us with wisdom and piety, to accommodate ourselves to the allotments of thy providence, to answer the good intentions of all thy dispensations, and to maintain a right temper and behaviour, in all the various scenes of life. And may all things work together for our good, as they do for them who love and fear thee.

We bless and praise thy holy name, for all thy rich and undeserved bounty and loving kindness to us. Great and manifold are the advantages and blessings we enjoy, for our bodies, and our souls, for time, and eternity! How perfectly, how kindly are they adapted to our present scene of existence! We thank thee for our noble powers of intelligence, for various opportunities of receiving knowledge and illumination, for our capacities of holding sweet communion with thee, the author of our being and framer of our spirits. We praise thee also, for those various temporal comforts, which sweeten our passage through the present state. We bless thee, that we enjoy so much good, and suffer so little evil; that our pleasures are so great an overbalance to our pains and sorrows; and that the afflictions we do experience, are designed for our discipline, instruction, and everlasting

benefit. All our comforts are the free communications of thy generous goodness. Thy benignity, O God, is the spring of all our happiness, the foundation of all our hopes.

We thank thee, O Lord, for the last night's safety and repose; that we are in such comfortable circumstances this morning;—and in the land of the living, to praise thee. Keep us, we beseech thee, this day, from all sin. May a sense of thy presence effectually guard us from running into the way of temptation, and from falling, thereby, into the snares of vice and folly. Keep us, by thy holy providence, if it be thy will, from all the evils and dangers, to which we may be exposed.

Above all things, teach us, O God, to keep a good conscience, to walk in all thy statutes and ordinances blameless, and to support a truly christian conduct in all circumstances, and in every period of life. And, when ever thou seeest fit to summon us from the present life, may we resign our breath without reluctance; may we die in peace, and sleep in Jesus; may we rest in hope, rise again amongst the just; and finally have an entrance ministered unto us abundantly into the mansions of everlasting glory and happiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O THOU great, supreme, and glorious father of all! We adore thee as a being of original, independent, and superlative glory, and excellence. All nature bears testimony to thy universal benevolence. And how illustrious is that display, which thou hast exhibited, of thy love and good will to mankind, in sending thy Son Jesus Christ, to deliver them from the darkness, vice, and misery, into which they sunk themselves, and to lead them to truth, to holiness, happiness and immortality?

Unto thee would we pay our humble tribute of unfeigned thanks, for thy great goodness to us. Thy thoughts of love to us are precious. How great is the sum of them! It is far above our power to recount, or to conceive! To thee we not only owe our being, but every moment of its continuance, and whatever contributes to its support, ornament, and happiness. Wert thou, O Lord, but for a moment to withdraw thy protecting hand from us, we would instantly crumble into the dust from which thou hast created us. If thou guide us not, we fall into error—if thou lead us not, we run into danger. Snares and temptations every where surround us. Difficulties and perplexities constantly await our mortal pilgrimage. But thou, O Lord, art our shield and defence, the strong tower of our safety in every time of need or disaster. O make us sensible of our entire dependence on thee in all conditions and events that await us.

If thy providence make our way prosperous,

by placing us in circumstances of temporal ease and affluence, secure us, we beseech thee, against the temptations of such a condition; and when misfortunes overtake us, O, teach us, to cherish a spirit of humble resignation to thy will. May we not forget the uncertainty of human things, or make the objects of time and sense our portion. May our greatest pleasure, in temporal enjoyments, arise from a grateful heart towards thee our God,—from a sense of thine attending favor and blessing, and from a consciousness of applying our talents to the best purposes, and of behaving in a worthy, virtuous, and useful manner.

If thy providence see fit to allot unto us scenes of sorrow and affliction by causing us to struggle with various temporal difficulties, may we not murmur or repine. May we be patient, and and resigned, entirely approving of thy government, and thoroughly persuaded, that all thy ways are right and good, and wisely calculated for our best interests. Assist us, O our God, to make the best improvement of all adversities. May they refine our minds, confirm our faith, enliven our hope, strengthen our virtue, and prepare us for a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. May the interruption of temporal happiness remind us, that this world is not our home, apprize us of the vanity of pursuing an earthly felicity, and firmly convince us that our proper happiness consists in something far nobler, and more substantial, than can be found in the present state. From hence may we effectually learn, to regard the one thing needful, to secure the enduring substance of religion, to make good our title to the heaven-

ly inheritance, and to engage, with our full choice in the determined pursuit of that better part, which shall never be taken away from us.

May thy gracious, fatherly hand, support us in a course of sincere piety, conduct us safely through all the snares, difficulties, and dangers of this state of our probation, and finally, fix us in some proper mansions of employment and happiness, in thine heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We would beg thy merciful regards to all mankind; and would pour out our benevolent wishes for the happiness of all our fellow creatures. May those, who are involved in the uncomfortable darkness of error and falsehood, be visited with the chearing beams of light and truth. May those, who are wandering in the mazes of vice and folly, be convinced of their danger and misery, and make a timely retreat by returning to the fair and pleasant paths of wisdom. May those, who have corrupted their ways, and depraved their hearts, who are under the tyranny of evil passions, and the torture of evil reflections, be restored to rectitude, liberty, and peace. May error give way to truth, confusion and discord, to order and harmony; and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God, striving to inculcate peace on earth and good will towards mankind.

We rejoice, that there has been so considerable a reformation in our land, from the darkness of superstition, to the knowledge of thee, the only true God and of Jesus Christ, the son of thy love, whom thou has sent to redeem a lost world from sin and misery—that bible, tract, & missionary societies have been successfully established

in our goodly land—that thy word and ordinances are daily diffusing among our inhabitants the knowledge of the beauty and glory of our Redeemer's kingdom, and that embassadors for Christ are, from time to time, going out, from amongst us, to propogate redeeming love to the neighboring Heathen nations. We pray thee, O Lord, that their labors may be crowned with success and that the sun of righteousness may soon arise among those Heathens, with healing under its wings. Open a way, O Lord, by thy providence, for the entire removal of every thing, which tarnishes the beauty, obstructs the good design, and weakens the happy tendency of pure and genuine Christianity. May professing Christians more generally exampliffy a truly Christian conduct, and shine as lights in the world, adorning the doctrine of Christ our Saviour, in all things.

May the great interests of our native country be under thy constant protection. Adored be divine goodness, we are a singularly privileged nation! May we never, by our vices, cause the righteous Governor among the nations to strip us of our privileges, or to suffer our enemies to wrest them out of our hands. May the numbers of the wicked daily diminish; and may the righteous continually multiply, and increase in the midst of us.

Bless our relations and friends, with every good thing. Pity the sick; comfort the distressed; prolong useful and desirable lives; and may such, as are drawing near to the gates of death, be ready and resigned. May the young early imbibe the principles of true religion.—

May they cultivate the amiable seeds of piety and holiness, establish the lovely dispositions and habits of true goodness, and thus lay the foundation of a worthy life, of a comfortable death, and of a blissful immortality. Support the aged, under the infirmities of declining nature. The nearer they approach to the grave, that house appointed for all the living, the brighter, more convincing, and comfortable may their hopes, and prospects be, of a glorious resurrection to eternal life and happiness.

Graciously accept of our thankful acknowledgments, for all the mercies of the past day.—Continue to be our guardian and defence, through this night. May we sleep securely and sweetly, under the shadow of thy wings, and be fitted for further duty and service.

Hear us, we beseech thee, and graciously grant our lawful desires; accept of us, and bless us abundantly, through Jesus Christ our Lord; through whom, to God the father, be given all honor, and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

THURSDAY MORNING.

O Thou supremely great and glorious being, of whom, by whom, and unto whom are all things! All thy works praise thee! Thy glorious perfections are engraven, in deep and shining characters, on every part of thy vast creation. We rejoice, that thou hast made us capable of delightfully contemplating thy nature, and attributes, of adoring thy supreme excellence,

and of loving thy most perfect and amiable character.

We would, at this time, cheerfully join in testifying before our God the sense we feel of thy liberal and constant goodness, of our entire dependence upon thy providence, and of the innumerable obligations we are under, of being obedient and dutiful children of thee, our good and bountiful Heavenly Father. May we at this, and at all times when we engage in thy service, worship thee, who are a Spirit, in spirit and in truth, knowing that thou searchest the hearts and trieth the reins of the children of men. May we come before thee with the deepest humility and reverence, with the highest esteem and love, with sincere penitence for our offences and neglects, with holy joy, and cheerful trust in the government of unerring wisdom and sovereign goodness, and with a readiness of mind to submit to all thy disposals, and to obey all the commandments, of the Lord our God, continually.

O may a devout, constant, rational attention to religious duties fix, with deep impression in our hearts, the principles of heavenly truth; confirm and strengthen the best and happiest dispositions, and establish us in the path of universal righteousness. May our religious faith be rational and well grounded. May it be an effectual restraint against all vice and iniquity, and a powerful and successful inducement to all worthy and virtuous conduct. And finally, may we obtain the true perfection and happiness of accountable and moral beings.

Teach us, O God, ever to detest all falsehood and deceit. May we be just and honest in all

our dealings with each other; and may we be benevolent, candid and charitably disposed towards all men. May every heart before thee be happy, in all right and amiable affections. And may our lives be adorned with every virtue, and every duty becoming our character, and station in the world, as disciples of Him, who went about doing good.

May that divine religion, published to men by Jesus Christ, with such convincing evidence of thine authority confirming it, take full possession of our hearts May it be our great ambition to excel in every christian virtue, and to attain a conformity of spirit and life to the amiable rules of the gospel, and to the divine example of Jesus. Particularly may we imitate and imbibe his humility, patience, and self denial, for the good of others, his unbounded benevolence, goodness, compassion, and cheerful resignation to the divine will. Thus may we evidence the sincerity of our profession as Christians. Thus may we do honor to religion, secure thine approbation, and at last be made happy, in the enjoyment of thy favor to all eternity.

May those afflictions and sorrows, wherewith thou mayest see fit at any time in the course of thy providence to visit us, by their good and happy effects, become the greatest blessings.—May they take away our sin, refine and strengthen our virtues, and thus yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness; yea, Lord, may we consider that these light afflictions, which are but for a moment, will work out for us a far more exceeding, even an eternal weight of glory.

May good hope be the comfort of the aged.—

May a virtuous conduct in life be the sincere and firm resolution of the young. May they be preserved from the temptations and snares which surround them. May they stand forth to maintain the glorious cause of truth, liberty and religion. Thus may they secure to themselves the noblest peace of mind here, and everlasting happiness hereafter.

Pity, O God of compassion, and relieve the sick, the poor, and the desolate. Be a father to the fatherless and the widow's God. Grant them the supports and comforts they stand in need of. Bless all our dear relations and friends, with every good thing, both for this life and a better. Bless all before thee with every suitable aid, comfort, and kindness. Guard us from all real evil; and above all, from sin, the worst of evils.

Accept, O Lord, our thanks for the safety and repose of the last night, and for the peace and welfare of our family, in which we now meet before thee.—Be with us through this day.—Preserve us from the temptations, which might overcome us. Make us victorious over all such, as would persecute us, or destroy our temporal comforts, or hopes of happiness hereafter. May our life on earth be truly religious. And may we, at last, be found meet for, and admitted to thine heavenly and eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

THURSDAY EVENING.

O THOU supreme majesty of heaven and earth! Thou dost most justly claim the cheerful praise, and willing subjection of every reasonable being. We would be deeply sensible of what high importance it is, to the happiness of all thy rational offspring, to maintain a continual sense of thee, and a becoming regard to thy perfections, laws, and providence. May our present, and all our attendances upon religious duties, contribute to this good and worthy end. Never, O God, may we dare to give way to a trifling, inattentive frame of mind, in thy presence. May we never indulge that careless demeanour, which would betray a shameful want of pious reverence. May we never become so dreadfully insensible to the importance and beauty of religious worship, as to lose all the good effects of our attendance upon it. May we at all times be impressed with the solemn truth, that thou Lord seest us; and that to thee, the steward of our souls, we must render an account of all our deeds, whether they be good or evil. O then we beseech thee, help us to work out our salvation with fear and trembling; and impress us with the solemn conviction that there is no other name given under heaven, whereby we can be saved, but by that of Jesus, alone.

We desire to bow down our souls before thee, this evening, with composed minds; devout affections, and fixed attention. May these performances excite and improve the piety of our souls. May we faithfully apply the rules and

motives of religion, to the government of our hearts and lives. May our present devotions be acceptable in the sight of thee, the heart-seeing God; and be effectual to our spiritual advantage, and religious growth. May they be happily instrumental, to banish from our temper and practice whatever is evil, or unchristian; to cure our moral disorders; to purify our hearts; to excite and strengthen virtuous resolutions; to animate and confirm every right disposition towards God and man; to further our progress in all purity and goodness; and to promote our meetness for eternal life.

Enable us, O God, to keep our hearts with all diligence, knowing that out of them are the issues of life and death. Help us to bridle our tongues, and to govern our passions. May no inordinate desire ever prevail upon us, to break through the sacred boundaries of wisdom, virtue, and true religion.

Our temporal condition, the external circumstances of our life, and the continuance of life itself, we refer to thy divine providence. We would especially pray, that thou wilt give us wisdom to behave well and wisely, under whatever affliction thou shalt see fit to appoint. May all things in the course of our earthly pilgrimage conduce to the security and improvement of our Christian duties and exercises; that thus we may be enabled to cherish the hope, that when Christ who is our life shall appear, we also, will appear with him in glory. Conduct us O Lord, in whatever way thou pleasest, to the perfection and happiness of our natures. By good dispositions, by an upright conduct, and by a

steady perseverence in duty to the end, may we be prepared to meet death with serenity and good hope, to stand with honor in judgment, and to become blessed in the inheritance of eternal life.

May the unity of the spirit among Christians be preserved in the sacred bond of mutual peace and love.—Amongst all lesser differences, may all discern the supreme excellence of goodness. may they shew their fear of God by working righteousness, and their faith in Christ, by doing the will of his and their heavenly father.—May all, who name the name of Christ, strive to excel in Christian virtues, and thus may they adorn and recommend their profession.

We would rejoice, O Lord, in thy constant and bountiful provision for our daily returning wants. Particularly, we would bless thee for all thy goodness to us and our's, through the day past, which is now closing.

Forgive, we beseech thee, all our sins, and overlook whatever has been amiss in any of us, this day.

Praised and adored be thy great name, for all we enjoy, or yet hope for. We ascribe it to thy goodness, that we are still continued a family in health, with the comforts of life about us, and that we have escaped many dangers and difficulties, which have befallen many of thy better servants. Give us, O God, hearts grateful for our distinguished privileges, and compassionate to all under affliction, of whatever kind, whether of body, mind, or estate. Father of mercies, be thou the kind deliverer of all such. Pity those, who labor under the pressures of indigence.—

Dispose to kindness those, who are able to afford them benevolent relief. Ease the pained. Succor the tempted. Defend the oppressed.—Support the persecuted, for righteousness' sake. Comfort the sorrowful. Say to the fearful and disconsolate in heart: I am thy God. Speak peace to the distressed, whether in body or mind. Spare desirable and useful lives. Prepare such as are near to death, for a happy eternity. Be the gracious protector of feeble helpless infants, the tender guardian of destitute orphans. Plead thou the cause of the widow, and the fatherless, in thy holy habitation. Abundantly reward our benefactors; and, if we have any enemies, Father, forgive them.

May we lie down upon our beds this night, in peace with our own consciences, and with all mankind. May our sleep be sweet, refreshing and peaceful, under the blessing, care and protection of thy powerful providence. And may the morning light find us in health and comfort, with hearts full of love and gratitude to thee, our God, and properly and cheerfully disposed to thy service, and our duty.

Thus may our nights and days glide gently over our heads, till the messenger of death be sent to close our bodily eyes for ever. O may we have no guilty fears then to perplex us;—but, may we cheerfully commit our departing spirits into the hands of him, who is the resurrection and the life.

At the name of Jesus let every knee bow, and every tongue confess him to be Lord, to the glory of God, the supreme eternal father of all—to whom be everlasting praises. *Amen.*

FRIDAY MORNING.

O THOU great and glorious Lord our God !—Thou art the fountain of all existence and happiness. With reverence would we bow ourselves at the footstool of thy throne, this morning, acknowledging thy being, perfections, and providence. O may we present to God the pure homage of our souls ! May we not come before thee with bodily worship only, or out of mere custom and formality ; but, from a principle of duty to thee, from an unfeigned desire and design to cultivate pious affections, and to express and improve our veneration, love, and gratitude towards thee, our father in heaven. May we come before thee, humbly to petition thee, on whom we absolutely depend, for pardon, protection, assistance, and every blessing necessary to our peace here, and happiness hereafter. And may we return thee our sincerest thanks, for the daily supports and comforts of life, for the unspeakable benefits of the gospel, and for the cheering prospects of a happy immortality

With these dispositions of mind, would we now approach thine awful presence, and earnestly pray for thine acceptance of us, and of our services, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We desire to bless thy name, for the preservation and safety, for the sleep and refreshment, of the past night, and for the liberty of [illegible] our grateful acknowledgments before [illegible] morning. We bless thee for every family mercy—that we are a family still in health, and [illegible] the light of another day, in comfort and hope.

How happy are our circumstances, in comparison with those of many others! O that the gratitude of our hearts might keep pace with our obligations! O that our diligence in duty might evidence the sincerity of that gratitude!

Keep us, good God, this day, from every real evil. Bless us with every thing truly good for us. Preserve us from falling by temptations into sin, from evil customs and examples, and from every snare, which may lie in our way. May we ever remember, that we are in thy sight and presence, and keep a constant guard over ourselves, over our thoughts, our words, and our actions. Suffer not the world to gain possession of our hearts and affections. Help us to moderate our love to the things and persons around us, and carefully to deny every gratification, which would disturb the peace of our consciences, weaken our pious resolutions, or hinder our progress, in the divine and peaceful paths of wisdom and righteousness.

Many, O Lord our God, are the advantages we enjoy, both for this world and for another.—Impress, we beseech thee, the sense of them deeply upon our minds. To thee we owe it, that we were early taught to know and worship thee, the only true God; that we have had a religious education, pious instructions, good examples, and circumstances of ease and comfort, favorable to virtue and a religious life. To thee we owe it, that by the wisdom of our parents or friends, we have been kept out of the way of many temptations, which might have proved too hard for us, and have sunk us down into ruin and wretchedness. That we have the word of

God to read in our own language, that we have divine ordinances, and ministrations to attend upon, informing us of thy will, and our duty, both with respect to thy blessed self, our own souls, and one another,—we owe, and we ascribe alone to God. O may we not receive all this grace and goodness in vain! Help us frequently to recollect our numberless obligations and advantages, till the love of God glow in our hearts, and powerfully work up our pious resolutions and endeavors, to a more uniform obedience to all thy commandments, for the time to come.

Graciously pardon, O Lord, all our past impiety, and ingratitude to thee, the best of Beings. We are troubled and ashamed, to think of our unworthy conduct in past life. We earnestly beg the continual supplies of thy grace and help, that we may behave better, for the time to come. May we act in a manner more worthy our christian profession, and more suitable to our great and manifold obligations. Hereby may we be well prepared for the summons of death, and, at that solemn moment, may we have the well grounded hopes, and glorious prospects, of joining those happy spirits above, in the noble, exalted enjoyment and exercises of thy heavenly kingdom, to all eternity. We ask all, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, blessed forever. *Amen.*

FRIDAY EVENING.

O THOU great first cause, and fountain of being and happiness! Parent and Lord of universal nature! We would, this evening, bow down and worship thee, the Lord our maker, our gracious preserver, governor, and benefactor. Infinitely worthy art thou of our most reverential, grateful, submissive and obedient regards.

We praise thee for all the blessings, comforts, and advantages we have been favored with, relating to personal, social, and religious life;—More especially do we praise thee, for our invaluable privileges as Christians, for the excellent instructions, divine encouragements, and glorious hopes of the gospel. Thy mercies towards us, O Lord, in our creation, preservation, and redemption, are numerous, infinitely beyond our reckoning up; and great, infinitely beyond our estimations. May our souls be filled with a just sense of our unspeakable obligations. And may the cheerful obedience of our lives, bear continual and honorable testimony to the gratitude of our hearts.

In whatever instances our temper and behaviour have been inconsistent with thy word and ordinances, in whatever instance we have been guilty of wilful neglects of duty, or transgressions of thy holy laws, we would give way to the convictions of conscience, we would condemn ourselves, and humble ourselves before our God, trusting that a humble and contrite spirit thou wilt in no wise cast away from thy presence. Help us, O Lord, to reform whatev-

er has been amiss, in any part of our conduct, and to make every reparation in our power, for every instance of guilt, respecting both God and man. May we cultivate every right disposition, and steadily regard thy righteous laws, for the time to come. May we trust thy pardoning mercy, so fully displayed in the gospel; and confide in, and experience continually, thy promised assistance, to succeed our sincere endeavors after a new and better obedience.

May the love of goodness, and the love of God, be our predominant affections. May these render the practice of universal righteousness the first choice of our minds, and the highest delight of our lives. May we frequently reflect upon the uncertainty of human life, the certainty of death, the awful solemnities of a future judgment, and the importance of eternity. Help us ever to maintain a temper of mind suited to our present probationary state, and to an endless existence, beyond the grave.

May we be also duly apprised of the sacred obligations, and high importance, of social virtues, and of all the duties we owe to our fellow men. Assist us, O Lord, to acquit ourselves worthily and usefully in our several stations, and relations in life. May we ever maintain a high regard for those rules of social conduct, which thou, the great patron of human happiness, hast enacted, and which thou hast revealed to us by our reason, by our conscience, and by thy holy word; and the tendency of which is, to make us blessings to one another, and to render society a fund of mutual aid, pleasure, and delight.

May we be religiously careful, to guard against

injuring our fellow creatures, in any kind or degree ; and to govern ourselves, in all our mutual transactions, by the most impartial justice.— May we preserve an inviolable regard to truth, in all our words; to sincerity, in all our promises and engagements ; to fidelity, in every trust committed to us, and in all the confidence placed in us, and to candor, and charity, in all our judgment of others. May we readily forgive such as have offended us, in the hope, that our Father in Heaven, will also forgive us our offences, and always act, in every instance of social intercourse according to that plain, equitable, divine rule, of doing to others, as we would, that they should do unto us.

By the diligent culture, and habitual exercise, of the spirit of pure, extensive benevolence, may we at length become duly qualified subjects for thy blessed kingdom above, where perfect goodness shall reign, for ever and ever.

Fit us, O God, for whatever lieth before us. Whatsoever our hands find to do, may we do it with all our might, knowing that the night cometh when no one can work. Be thou ever a present help unto us. Enable us to accommodate ourselves to the things appointed in our lot, to behave well in all scenes and changes, to enjoy thy bounties with grateful hearts, to do thy will with all readiness of mind, and to receive, with all humble and dutiful submission, the bitter cup of affliction, whenever thou seest fit to put it into our hands. May we be preserved steady, in the sober path of religion, all our days. And, having maintained our integrity, walked before God with a sincere heart, done

that which is good in thy sight, faithfully served thee our God, and our generation, according to thy will, may we be ready to obey thy summons. to depart with easy resignation, and good hope, to be gathered in peace to our fathers, and finally, to be united with all the worthy and good, in the mansions of immortal life and happiness.

We praise thee, O Lord, for thy continual guardianship and protection, through the past day, and for the innumerable benefits we are continually receiving from thine inexhaustible bounty. We praise thee, that we are still alive; and in comfortable circumstances, and still a worshipping family before thee. May we improve this liberty of addressing the Almighty, to those valuable advantages, which thy great goodness encourages us to hope for from our supplications.

Let the rest and sleep of this night be safe and refreshing to us. May the returning light find us disposed and fitted, with cheerful and thankful hearts, for the proper duties of our respective stations and employments of this world. May our souls be continually advancing in all true wisdom & real goodness; and thus be gradually ripening for the divine employments, and exalted pleasures of the heavenly state. Thus, at last, may we be admitted to thy blessed kingdom above, through Jesus Christ our dear Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

SATURDAY MORNING.

O THOU great and glorious majesty of heaven and earth! Blessed be thy name, that we can come together this morning as a worshipping family, in such comfortable circumstances. In the proper posture of reasonable, dependent, and grateful beings, who are infinitely indebted unto thee for our existence, preservation, and the numberless blessings we enjoy, would we now present our humble addresses at the throne of thy grace.

Thy ever wakeful eye has been over us for good through the night watches. Thy ever constant goodness has kept us safe, whilst we slept, and has brought us to see the light of another day, in health and comfort. What shall we render unto thee, O Lord, for all thy benefits vouchsafed unto us! How unworthy are we of thy favorable regards, who have so often offended thee! Pardon most gracious God, all our offences. Blot out all our iniquities. And may a deep sense of our great unworthiness make us very penitent and humble before thee, who art of purer eyes, than to behold iniquity with approbation.

Blessed be thy name, we are assured, thou delightest in the ways of mercy, and art a tender lover of souls. Therefore are we encouraged to hope for the forgiveness of our sins, upon the terms of repentance and reformation. O strengthen thou in us every pious purpose of new and better obedience. May we, for the time to come, be more careful to avoid every sin,

and habitually to practice the whole of our duty. May we evidence a becoming regard to thy supreme and most righteous authority, and a just sense of our Christian obligations; and then may we have a good assurance of our being interested in thy pardoning mercy and approbation. O most merciful father, do thou assist us to subdue every evil inclination, to repel and vanquish every temptation, to become pure in heart, and holy in all manner of conversation.

May we love thee, our God, with a supreme affection. May we trust thee. May we hope in thee as the God of our fathers, and the hope of the faithful in all ages. May we rejoice in thy eternal providence, serve thee with a free, cheerful, universal obedience, and submit to thy disposals, with an entire and constant acquiescence.

Assist us, we pray thee, to maintain a right temper and conduct, towards all our fellow creatures, to acquit ourselves well in all social relations and duties, to love others as ourselves, and to do to them, as we could wish them to do to us. May we have, in settled habit, and continual exercise, that charity, without which, all religion is vain, which is the end of the commandment, the bond of perfectness, and glory of thy divine character, and which will be the glory and happiness of the celestial world.

Help us, O God, to keep our appetites and passions under the rightful, happy dominion of reason and conscience. May we attain a glorious liberty, in the clear discernment, voluntary choice, and cheerful practice of every thing good

and virtuous. Thus, may we secure to ourselves a true, solid, permanent happiness.

Praised be the name of the Lord, that through the gospel of Jesus, which has brought life and immortality to light, our prospect of existence and happiness is extended beyond the grave; and a blessed eternity opened to our faith, and assured to our sincere, though imperfect obedience. Praised forever be our good God, that after we have been the care of thy kind providence, and experienced so much of thy goodness, in one scene of being, we may hope for admission to a nobler state of existence, and a higher enjoyment of divine pleasures, which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor hath it entered in the heart of man, to conceive.

May we be devoting ourselves to those virtuous employments, and delighting ourselves in those pious pleasures, in this world, which will prepare us for the same kind of delights, in far greater perfection, in the future state. And when these mouldering bodies shall mingle with their original dust, and our souls return to God, who gave them, may we be found duly qualified to join the holy society, to engage in the divine employments, and to taste the pure exalted pleasures of the heavenly world.

By the continual practice of righteousness, and by habitual and growing goodness of heart, may we become meet for the glory and happiness of thine everlasting kingdom; and finally, be received to those blissful mansions, prepared for all the good and virtuous; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee, O Father and the

Holy Spirit, we would ascribe immortal praises. *Amen.*

SATURDAY EVENING.

O most glorious and ever living God! who inhabitest immensity, and dwellest in that light, which no mortal eye can approach unto, we, thine unworthy servants, would this evening, beg leave to present our grateful acknowledgements unto thee, who art the righteous governor of the world, the kind preserver of men, and to us in particular, the bountiful dispenser of all the comforts and blessings we enjoy.

To thee, O Father, we own ourselves infinitely indebted for all we now possess, or yet hope for, both for this world, and for that which is to come. But, notwithstanding all thy gracious dealings and dispensations towards us, we confess, we have neither loved, served, nor obeyed thee, as we ought to have done. The cares and concerns of this life are too apt to busy and engross our thoughts, and to make us remiss and cold in the great and important work of our salvation. We lament, with deep and humble penitence, our manifold sins, transgressions, and neglects.

And whither shall we fly for pardon and pity, but unto thee, O God, who art a God of infinite compassion and goodness? Thou hast graciously promised pardon to the penitent, help to the weak, and acceptance to the sincere, even to

those, who truly endeavor to reform their conduct, and to obey thy sacred laws.

Our hope therefore is in thy goodness for the pardon of all our past transgressions. May thy goodness lead us to unfeigned repentance. May it effectually prevail with us to forsake every false way, to overcome every evil habit, and to root out every wrong principle and inclination. May it determine our choice in favor of the beauties and consolations of religion, and engage us to a diligent perseverance in well doing, to the end of our lives. Thus may we glorify God, do honor to our christian profession, answer our peculiar obligations, and gain the solid satisfaction of peace to our own consciences, and the well-grounded hopes of thy eternal favor and love.—Thus finally, may we be qualified to enter into the celestial state, and to form a part of that glorious society, which shall be collected from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south, from all ages and nations under heaven, to people the regions of immortality. With this glorious assembly of holy and happy spirits, may we partake in the glories and pleasures of that kingdom, which God hath prepared for the righteous, from the foundation of the world.

We beseech thee, O Lord, to have pity and compassion on the whole race of mankind. May the bright beams of the gospel shine into all the corners of the earth. May they, who sit in darkness, come to the knowledge and practice of thy laws, and be saved, in the great day of the Lord Jesus.

Be merciful to this our dear native country. Pardon our great and crying sins, and avert from

us the evils, we have most justly deserved. Put a stop to all profaneness, irreligion and impiety, and to all our unhappy strifes and animosities. May truth and righteousness, peace and charity flourish and increase daily amongst us.

O that all mankind were united in the rational faith, divine virtues, and glorious hopes of the gospel of Jesus. May not the progress and success of that gospel be hindered, by the unjust explanations, or scandalous lives of weak, or hypocritical professors.

We praise thy name, for all our distinguishing privileges, both civil and religious. May they still be preserved to us, be properly valued and improved by us, and descend inviolate to the latest posterity. May every thing unworthy of our peculiar advantages; every thing inconsistent with true religion, every thing destructive of personal, domestic and public happiness, be banished from amongst us. May every thing prevail, which the sacred laws of God, and the excellent rules of the gospel require; every thing which will promote the good of society, and recommend us to the approbation and protection of heaven.

Bless all orders and degrees of men amongst us, from the highest to the lowest. May a sacred regard to thy laws and ordinances, render all around us amiable, useful and happy, in their several spheres. May our great men be men of wisdom and integrity. May such, as are in stations of high eminence, and extensive influence, be shining examples, and powerful guardians of truth, liberty and righteousness.

Bless the President of the United States and

his cabinet counsellors. Establish them in righteousness. Give them wise and understanding hearts. Make them increasing and lasting blessings to the United States of America. Defend them from the evil designs of the enemies of our country, whether at home or abroad. May all our magistrates make conscience of employing their authority, in the most faithful, impartial, and useful manner, dispensing justice in the fear of God.

May all who undertake the important office of public instruction in the great principles of religion and the gospel, be sincere, diligent and upright. May they, by solid instructions, affectionate exhortations, and exemplary lives, be greatly instrumental in promoting the knowlege love and practice of true religion. May the disobedient be brought to the wisdom of the just. May the good be established, and increase more and more in all goodness and excellence.

We would tenderly sympathize with, and recommend to thy merciful compassions, those, who are in distress, pain or sorrow. O may thy gracious providence support and comfort them; and may the interruption of their temporal enjoyments be abundantly compensated, by their spiritual improvement.

May young persons flee youthful lusts, which war against the soul; and may they be early led to the love and practice of true wisdom, and real piety. Support the aged, under their growing infirmities; and when flesh and heart shall fail, be thou the strength of their heart, and their portion forever. May useful, desirable lives be prolonged. May such, as are approaching the

awful moment of dissolution, be prepared for a happy change.

Lend a gracious ear, O Lord, to the cry, and redress the grievances of tender, helpless infants. Abundantly reward such as have done or designed us good. And, if any have done us wrong, or wished us evil, Father, forgive them, and change their hearts, to a more Christian disposition Give light to the gloomy, and comfort to the disconsolate mind. Provide for the poor, and raise up friends to the destitute. Be thou the refuge of the oppressed, the orphan, the fatherless, and the widow. May they all find suitable relief, by reposing a proper confidence in thy divine providence, and by sheltering themselves under the shadow of thy wings.

We would bless and praise thee, O God, for the comforts and blessings we have received through the past day, and through the week, which is now about to conclude. Thou hast kindly preserved and provided for us, and hast given us all things richly to enjoy. Pardon, we beseech thee, the sins we have been guilty of, keep us in safety this night, together with all those, for whom we are tenderly concerned. Let our sleep refresh and fit us for the duties of the ensuing sabbath. May all the instrumental duties of religion, on which we attend, become, by the blessing of God, the means of improving in us rational and exalted piety, and of extending and establishing the dominion of real religion in our hearts and lives. Thus may they continually advance our meetness for thy eternal kingdom of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

WEEK II.

SUNDAY MORNING.

GREAT and glorious God! Thou art a being of universal majesty, who coverest thyself with light as with a garment, who makest the clouds thy chariot, who walkest upon the wings of the wind. Great art thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised. And as is thy majesty, so is thy mercy. The whole creation bears testimony to the benignity of thy nature, declares the riches of thy goodness, and encourages our trust and confidence in thee.

We acknowledge, with all thankfulness, those tokens of thy fatherly care and love, of which we participate, in common with the various inhabitants of our world.

But more especially we bless thee, O our ever bountiful and gracious God for thy distinguished favors to us, who dwell in these enlightened parts of the Christian world, upon whom thou hast caused the sun of righteousness to arise, with healing under his wings.

Adored be thy name, after a long night of darkness and the shadow of death, thou didst cause the *Day-spring* from on high to visit, and to cheer us with his enlivening rays. We embrace, with all gratitude and joy, the glad tidings of that gospel, which publishes to every sincere penitent the remission of all his past offences, and thy gracious acceptance, through Jesus Christ.

Blessed be thy goodness, thou hast revealed

thyself to us under the amiable and engaging character of our heavenly father, who proposest nothing by our obedience, but that, like thee, we should be perfect ; like thee, be happy.

When we reflect on our own weakness, and how insufficient we are to work out our own salvation, surrounded as we are with powerful temptations, and exposed to innumerable sufferings, we rejoice to think that, in these circumstances, we are encouraged by the gospel to address thee with all the confidence of children to a father, who knowest our frame, who pitiest our weakness, and art able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think ; for at no time hast thou said to the house of Jacob you seek me in vain.

We thank thee, O father of mercies, for the rest and refreshment of the past night ; and that we are brought in comfortable circumstances to the beginning of this day. We welcome the return of another sabbath, a day sacred to religious rest, and to the solemn exercises of devotion.— We rejoice to think, that we are, this day, going to join with all parts of the Christian world, in one common tribute of prayer and praise. May we repair to thy house, with dispositions of mind to improve by what we hear, and mindful of the peculiar obligations we lie under, as Christians, to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in the world. May our minds be free from all undue prejudices, and lie open to the best impressions, in favor of piety and every moral virtue.

May the words we shall hear, this day, with

our outward ears, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, as to produce the fruits of righteousness in our lives.

O may the momentous truths of religion come with their due weight and influence upon our minds. May they have the happiest tendency, to strengthen every virtuous principle, to weaken every irregular affection, to arm our minds against all future temptations, and to animate us to the most vigorous discharge of our respective duties. And may the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts be, now and at all times acceptable in thy sight, O Lord our strength and our redeemer. Assist us in our devotional duties and exercises this day. May we remember that it is the Sabbath of our God and that it is our duty to keep it holy, according to thy commandment. May the teachings of thy word this day do us good, as they do the upright in heart; and grant us the assistance of thy holy spirit, in our humble endeavors to serve thee, according to the ways of thine own appointment; and thine shall be the praise and glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

SUNDAY EVENING.

O Lord our heavenly father! We bow down ourselves before thee, in the name of thy son Jesus Christ, to offer up our evening sacrifice of prayer and praise.

The whole creation, O Lord, is the work of thine hands. Every where hast thou displayed,

both in heaven and in earth, the glories of thy sovereign majesty, of thine incomprehensible wisdom, and most diffusive goodness.

Though thou art exalted in majesty and power, far above our most raised conceptions, yet thou condescendest to regard us with all the affection of a father, and to accept the services which we are capable of performing.

Thy hands, O Lord, have formed and fashioned us. We are thankful for a nature capable of knowing and obeying thy will, of imitating thy moral perfections, and of being forever happy in the enjoyment of thy favor. We bless thee, that thou hast rendered us capable of discerning the beauties of holiness, and of tasting the pleasures of religion.

We desire to be unfeignedly thankful, that the great truths of religion, preached by Christ and his apostles, have been transmitted, in their genuine purity and simplicity, to our times; that we have so many helps for the right understanding of them; such convincing evidence laid before us to engage our firm belief in them; and such powerful motives frequently proposed to our minds, to lead us to a correspondent temper and practice.

We thank thee, O God, for whatever advantages of this kind we have this day enjoyed. We hope, it has been good for us to draw near unto thee, in the ordinances of thine appointment.

Pardon, we beseech thee, in a particular manner, whatever thou hast seen amiss in our attendance upon the religious services of this day: and accept of whatever has been sincere. May we by happy experience find, that by at-

tending upon the institutions of religion, we are growing wiser and better; that we are acquiring a more perfect command over our own spirits; that the sinful temptations of the world lose their influence over us; that we find less difficulty in the government of our hearts and affections; and as the sum of all, that we are gradually improving in the knowledge, love, and practice of our duty. And when our sabbaths here are over, and we are called off the stage of life, may we be found possessed of those virtuous dispositions and habits, which shall give us a relish for the society of pure and perfected spirits, in the world above.

Hear we entreat thee, O God of mercy, those intercessions, which have this day been offered up to the throne of thy grace, for all mankind.—May the whole earth share with us in all our distinguished privileges as Christians. May all the churches of Christ, wherever dispersed, and by whatever name distinguished, breathing the spirit of Christ, and practising the virtues of his religion, most effectually promote its universal spread and interest in the world. May it please thee, to continue to these lands of our nativity that form of government, by which we may still be secured in the undisturbed possession of our civil and religious liberties. Bless all in authority over us. Teach our rulers wisdom, and our magistrates justice. May the fear of the Lord constrain them, to exercise their several public duties, with a single eye to the good of this commonwealth, and the interests of thy church. May all the ministers of Christ, among us, be faithful, diligent and successful. Learn

the inhabitants of this land righteousness. Make them a people peculiarly zealous of good works, Here, O Lord, we beseech thee, water thy churches, with the dews of thy richest blessing — May the persecuted sons and daughters of Zion, whether from the east, or the west, or the north, or the south, always find an asylum in this favored land. And grant that they may strengthen the hands of the followers of Jesus amongst us, and thereby enlarge the boundaries of his spiritual kingdom. Yea, Lord, may all the kingdoms of this earth, become the kingdoms of our Lord Christ—to his name may every knee bow, and every heart yield obedience, until all the ends of the earth, enjoy thy great salvation. O hear our prayers, for all the sons and daughters of affliction, that the best instructions may be conveyed to their minds by the visitations of thy providence; and that by the sadness of their countenances, their hearts may be made better.

And now, O father of mercies, accept our thankful acknowledgments for the protection and comforts of this day. Defend us from all the dangers of the ensuing night, during the silent and defenceless hours of rest. And may we rise, with renewed vigor, to the light and services of the following day.

Hear, we pray thee, our prayers for ourselves, and our intercessions for others, which we offer up in the name, and as the disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour; through whom we have access unto thee, O father; and by whom we thankfully ascribe unto thee all honor and glory, thanksgiving and praise, now and for ever more. *Amen.*

MONDAY MORNING.

The Lord's Prayer Paraphrased.

Most glorious and ever blessed God! We adore and worship thee, as "our father who art in heaven." Thou hast made us, and not we ourselves. We are thy people, and the sheep of thy pasture. And, blessed be thy name, thou hast encouraged us to come unto thee, as children to a father. We rejoice in this privilege; and we desire to render thee that homage, which is justly due to the God, who created us, and who hath kept us all our lives long. Heaven is thy throne, the habitation of thy holiness and glory. Look down, we beseech thee, from heaven, and have compassion upon the imperfect creatures, who appear at thy footstool, and graciously help our infirmities.

Thou art God, and there is none besides thee. Thou art God, and there is none to be compared unto thee; the sovereign ruler and disposer of all things, the father of angels and of men, the father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in and thro' him, the fountain of all good.

We pray, therefore, that thine existence may be universally believed, thy supreme dominion acknowledged, thine amiable perfections admired and imitated, and thy providence and word revered, trusted, and obeyed. Grant that we, and all thy rational creatures, may entertain such sentiments of thy being, thy works, and ways, that "thy name may be hallowed" every where,

may be exalted above the heavens, and thy glory above all the earth.

May the whole race of mankind come to the knowledge, belief, and practice of pure and undefiled religion and the kingdom of Jesus Christ thy son—a kingdom of truth and righteousness, which shall never have an end, and be extended through the whole earth.

May the inhabitants of this world pay as cheerful and constant obedience to thy commands, as do the blessed spirits in heaven—and we ever esteem it, as our meat and drink to do the will of our father, and to finish his work, Through the whole ofour existence in the world, in prosperity and adversity, in health and sickness, in life and death, may it be the language of our hearts, "the will of the Lord be done."

Deny us not, we pray thee, O thou preserver of men, the necessaries and conveniencies of life. Bestow upon us, "this day," and every day of our remaining lives, "our daily bread," and such a portion of the good things of this world, as may be sufficient for our comfortable subsistence in it. And, having food and raiment, may we be therewith content, trusting in thy word and promise, that first seeking the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof,all other things will be added thereto.

In an especial manner, we entreat thy forgiveness of our manifold offences. We confess,that in many things we have all offended; yea,like sheep have strayed from the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, and wert thou strict to punish us for our mis deeds, we could not answer thee for one of a thousand,or be able to stand before thee.

But blessed and praised be thy name, thou hast mercifully declared thyself to be a God, who delightest not in the death of a sinner, but rather that he should repent and live.

We desire to embrace those terms of forgiveness, which thou hast proposed to us by Jesus Christ our Lord. We desire, O Lord, to live in perfect charity with all mankind. And O! do thou "forgive us our trespasses, in like manner as we forgive those, who trespass against us."

At the same time that we thus obtain of thee mercy to pardon what is past, may we likewise obtain help of thee to keep us in "every future hour of temptation." Suffer us not merciful father, to be "tempted" above what we are able; but, with every temptation, do thou make a way for our escape, that we may be able to bear it.

Deliver us from every thing, which may be dangerous or hurtful to us. Deliver us, O God, from the deceitfulness of our own hearts, and from pomps the and vanities of the wicked part of mankind. May neither the allurements of pleasure, the gilded joys of ease and prosperity, nor the fears of pain, poverty, or contempt, ever tempt us to forget our duty of resignation to thy will, or shake our confidence in thy Fatherly care and providence, knowing that every good and perfect gift cometh from our Father, who is in heaven; and that he will withhold no good thing from them who love him, and obey his statutes.

If it please thee, O Lord, to favor us with an abundance of the good things of life, suffer us not, we pray thee, to be elated above measure;

but dispose us to use the riches of thy goodness so, as not to abuse them; knowing, that we are only stewards of thy blessings, and, that we must give a just account of the talents committed to our care. Or, if it should seem good to thy perfect wisdom, that we should be trained up in the school of adversity, or our hope and confidence be tried in the furnace of affliction, grant merciful father, that we may learn to bear thy whole will with patience, and resignation; and, at length may come forth more and more refined and improved in every Christian grace and temper.

In every state and condition may we behave, in all respects, as the children of God, and the heirs of immortality. Thus may we be prepared for a joyful admission into thy presence, where there is fullness of joy, and for a place at thy right hand, where there are pleasures for ever more.

These things we humbly pray for, as the disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord; sensible, that thou art able and willing to comply with the reasonable requests of thy children; for "thine is the kingdom" of universal nature, "the" fulness of all "power," and "the glory" of infinite perfection. To thee, therefore, our father who art in heaven, be ascribed kingdom, power, and glory, now and evermore. *Amen.*

MONDAY EVENING.

O Lord our God! We would at this time magnify thy great and glorious name, that thy mercy is not confined to the heavens, nor thy faithfulness to the clouds—that although thou dwellest in light inaccessible and full of glory, thy compassions are not limited to thy holy habitation, nor thy providence to the inhabitants of the skies; but that, even, thy kind and affectionate regard is manifested to the degenerate sons and daughters of the human race.

When we attempt to fix our thoughts on thee, and to enumerate the instances of thy goodness, how are our ideas lost and bewildered! How are our minds overwhelmed! How great, O God, is the sum of thy mercies! Help us, at this time, to refresh our minds with the pleasing, grateful remembrance of them, and to render thee that tribute of thanksgiving and praise, which is so justly thy due.

We praise thee, with all thankfulness, that thou hast formed us capable of the purest and most lasting pleasures, and of discerning the beautiful order and harmony, which prevail amongst all thy works, and bespeak their divine original.

Blessed be thy name, O Lord, that thou hast formed us with capacities fitted to distinguish between moral good and evil, to discern the reasonableness, amiableness, and excellence of the one, and the folly, deformity, and danger of the other. Thus hast thou taught us, to guard against every thing, which would stain our honor, wound

our peace, and incapacitate us for performing the duties of life, or for relishing the bounties of thy providence.

We thank thee, that thou hast placed us in a state of society, and connected us with one another by the strictest ties of friendship and brotherly love. We bless thee, that we are, by this means, rendered capable of increasing the pleasures, and of lessening the troubles of life, by partaking in each others joys and sorrows.

We thank thee, O God, for the kind preservation of our lives; and for the measure of health afforded us, both for the performance of our duty, and the enjoyment of thy bounty.—Blessed be God, that our days pass pleasantly over our heads; and that the slumbers of the night are not taken away from us. We have, besides, all our wants supplied. We are furnished, not only with the necessaries, but with the comforts and conveniencies of life. Blessed be that God, who giveth us all things richly to enjoy.

And blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has called us unto his kingdom of righteousness; who has given us an excellent summary of duty, for the direction of our conduct in every station and relation of life; and who has set before us the most powerful motives to encourage our hopes, and to animate our endeavors.

Blessed be God, that we were born of religious parents, who, by their virtuous examples, and faithful counsels, endeavored to inspire us betimes with a love of goodness, and a reverence for God; with a love of mankind, and a de-

sire to be useful to the world; with a contempt of the low pleasures of sense, and a relish for the more refined satisfactions of the mind. How can we sufficiently extol and magnify thy name, O Lord, our God! But we rejoice in the prospect, that what cannot be completed in this world, will be the delightful work of a blessed eternity.

With these thoughts, would we close the day, acknowledging thy goodness, which has defended us from all uncomfortable accidents, and commending ourselves to thy guardian care this night.

And, when our scene of trial closes, and we are called out of this world by death, may we have a strong, and a well grounded confidence in thy favor; that, fearing no evil, we may make a decent and comfortable exit out of this state, and awake with enlarged faculties, to the services and enjoyments of that country where there is no pain, nor sorrow nor sickness, and where every tear shall be wiped away from our eyes.

Graciously receive, O heavenly father, these our prayers and praises, which we offer up unto thee, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom, to God the father, be everlasting praises. *Amen*

TUESDAY MORNING.

O, Our Father, who art in heaven! through thy fatherly care and goodness, we have escaped the dangers of the night past; and with the

returning light of this day would we offer up our united praises to our almighty protector.—We thank thee, that through the defenceless hours of rest, we have been preserved from every uncomfortable accident; that, whilst many have this night slept the sleep of death, we are restored to the proper use of our senses, and the regular exercise of our rational powers; and that we find ourselves recruited by sleep, and disposed for entering with cheerfulness upon the duties of another day.

O lift up the light of thy countenance upon us, and this shall inspire us with true gladness of heart, and animate us to run the way of thy commandments with alacrity and vigor. Go with us where we go, and stay with us where we stay. Be thou the health of our countenance and our God, in the house of our pilgrimage.

We are entering upon another day of discipline and service. Help us, O father, to acquit ourselves well through the whole of it. Safe under thy protection and blessing, may we be defended from every thing, which would be finally hurtful to us; and be always employed in the pursuit of something laudable, useful, and good.

May we carefully abstain from every deed or word, which would unnecessarily grieve or pain those, with whom we converse. By a diligent attention to the duties of our respective stations, may we contribute to the peace, comfort, and happiness of all, with whom we are more immediately connected in social life.

As thou hast implanted in our breasts a variety of kind affections, we would endeavor to pre-

serve them in their due strength and exercise.—May we guard carefully against whatever would efface or weaken them. Make us sensible that we are born, not solely for ourselves, or for our own good; but that we are indispensibly obliged to contribute, all we can, to the happiness of those to whom we belong. Inspire us with the most enlarged sentiments of benevolence towards all our fellow creatures. May we look upon mankind in general, as our brethren. May we suffer no consideration of birth, of country, or of religion; no difference of opinions or customs, to cool our charity, or to confine our good will, seeing the same Lord over all, is rich in mercy unto all, who call upon him.

O may thy forbearance towards us, notwithstanding our many offences, lead us to the exercise of patience one towards another, forbearing one another in love. May we never harbor a spirit of revenge; but may we forgive and forget the injuries we receive, even as we hope to be forgiven.

As thou hast placed us in different stations of life, assist us, O Lord, to perform the duties of our respective situations, with all fidelity and good conscience. May we ever shew all due respect to our superiors, kindness to our equals, and to our inferiors condescension and mildness. In whatever condition thy providence may place us, may we ever be careful to manifest the genuine temper of our holy religion. May love and good will run through the whole of our actions. May we be continually improving in all amiable and generous affections. May we be so united together by the strictest ties of friendship

and brotherly love here upon earth, that at length, we may be admitted to dwell together in those blissful mansions, where peace and concord, love and friendship reign in the highest perfection.

We ask all in the name of Jesus Christ, thy beloved son, who is worthy to receive all honor, dominion and praise, now and forever. *Amen.*

TUESDAY EVENING.

O LORD our God! we humbly adore thee, as a being possessed of every perfection fitted, to excite our admiration, to engage our love, to encourage our confidence, and to inspire our devotion.

Thou, O God, art he, whose glory no eye can behold; whose majesty no thought can comprehend; whose power no force can resist; from whose presence no swiftness can fly; from whose knowledge no secret can be concealed; whose justice no art can evade; and whose goodness extendeth to every creature.

We rejoice to think of that infinite wisdom, which can never fail of discerning our true interests; and of that almighty power, which will ever be equal to our support and happiness.—Amidst all the weaknesses, wants, and dangers to which our frail nature is subject, we would repose ourselves in calm security under the shadow of thy wings.

But, O our God, may we never deceive ourselves with any presumptuous hopes of thy mer-

cy, whilst we are destitute of those virtuous principles, and holy dispositions, which alone can render us acceptable in thy sight. Search us, O God, and try us; know thou our thoughts, and see if there be any evil way in us: and lead us in the way everlasting. Help us to keep our hearts with all diligence, since out of them are the issues of life. Assist us to keep our mouth, as it were with a bridle, that we offend not with our tongues.

Impress our minds with such a deep sense of thy great and tremendnous majesty, as shall guard us against an irreverent use of thy holy name. May our tongues, the glory of our frame, be suitably employed in the solemn acts of devotion; or in the useful offices of friendship, in binding up the broken in heart, and comforting those that mourn.

In the whole of our conduct, may we be governed by the principles of our holy religion.—May we tread closely in the steps, and conformably to the example, of our blessed Lord. May the same holy, pure, humble, meek, patient, contented, submissive, spiritual, and heavenly temper, which was so conspicuous in him, prevail also in our breasts, and shine forth in the whole of our lives.

Awaken, O Lord, in our breasts a due sense of the evil of sin, and of all its ruinous consequences, that we may avoid it as we would our most dangerous enemy. Help as to guard more especially against those sins, which most easily beset us, and from which we are in the greatest danger.

Remind us of that awful season, which is fast

approaching, when every disguise shall be stripped off, and the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, before the righteous judge of the whole earth. May we not suffer the numberless privileges which we now enjoy, through our sinful neglect and abuse, to rise up in judgment against us, to cover us with shame, and to fill us with the painful stings of a self-reproaching heart.

O God, we would make it the heighth of our ambition, and most solicitous concern through life, to be accepted at last by our judge, and to have our faithful, though imperfect services, owned and approved by him.

May this concern, deeply and continually felt, produce the happiest effects upon the whole of our conduct through life. May it render us diligent and wathful in guarding against temptation, and zealous and active in the performance of our duty; so that, when our Lord comet, he may not surprise us unprepared, but may find us employed in his service. And, from a life of diligence, faith, and patience here on earth, may we be translated to a life of glory and happiness in heaven.

Graciously receive, O heavenly father, our thankful acknowedgments for the protection and comforts of the past day. Pardon our sins of commission or neglect. Be with us this night and keep us from all evil. May our rest refresh, and fit us for an active and cheerful performance of future duties. And may we be every day improveing in those good dispositions, which may fit us, whenever we are called out of this life, for the nobler services and enjoyments of

thy heavenly kingdom above, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD our God! Thou, who was the kind creator, art still the continual preserver of men. Thou only causeth us to dwell in safety. Deeply impressed by the repeated instances of thy goodness to us, we would present our morning tribute of thanksgiving and praise. Thou hast given us rest and refreshment for our wearied bodies. Thou hast defended us from all the dangers of the night. Thou hast restored us to the light of another day, in peace and safety.—Gracious God! How largely do we share in the rich communications of thine inexhaustible bounty yea, every good and perfect gift cometh down from thee, the Father of mercies.

We are fed and clothed by thee. We live upon thy generous goodness. But, alas! we are not duly mindful of thee, who thus continually carest for us. How apt are we to live as if we were the authors of our own happiness: neither properly owing, nor duly sensible of our dependence upon thee, our God? How apt are we to repine and murmur at thine appointments, forgeting that our mercies are still more than can be numbered, and that our troubles are less than our iniquities have deserved? Yea, O God, do we not too often forget, that, though we are exercised with afflictions, we can never be injured by our maker; for that thou afflictest us

only for our profit, that we may become partakers of thy holiness?

We lament before thee the vanity of our thoughts, which are too prone, to dwell upon the objects of sense, to cool our affections for the pure and refined pleasures of religion, to excite our evil passions, and to give them the advantage over us. We lament before thee, O our God, that our good affections are so inconstant, that the precepts of heavenly wisdom are so quickly effaced from our minds, and that we so soon forget our good resolutions.

Forgive us, O father, that we have not made such improvement of the talents committed to us, as thou hast justly required and expected. Forgive us, that, instead of being faithful stewards of the bounties of thy providence we have wasted a large portion of our time in things that cannot profit, to the neglect of those things which belong to our everlasting peace.

Great reason have we to be covered with shame, and confusion of face, whenever we take a view of our past conduct, to find, that we have made no greater proficiency in the ways of the thy commandments. Wert thou a being strict to mark, and severe to punish what we have done amiss, or what we are remiss and negligent in doing well, our prospect into futurity might well fill our minds with the most alarming apprehensions.

But thou art gracious and merciful! O lift up the light of thy reconciled contenance upon us, and revive us with the comforts of thy salvation!

Father of mercy, forgive, we entreat thee, all our sins, whereby we have offended thee,

wounded our consciences, and weakened our religious strength. We ask the forgiveness of our sins, with a firm and sincere resolution to forsake them for the time to come, and to yield a more cheerful and entire obedience to thy laws.

To this end, make us sensible of the evil nature, and the malignant consequences of vice, that we may carefully avoid it, as our most dangerous enemy, as that, which would load us with infamy, and disqualify us for all true enjoyment. Inspire us, O God, with an ardent and growing love of holiness and piety, convinced, that they are in their nature most reasonable, and productive of the truest satisfaction of mind.

May our past negligence awaken our future diligence. May the remembrance of past transgressions make us more humble and circumspect for the time to come.

Help us this day, and every future day of our lives, to act as becomes the sincere and worthy disciples of so excellent a master, to control every irregular appetite and passion, to triumph over every temptation, and to advance in the paths of righteousness and peace towards the true perfection of our nature.

And when we are removed out of this world by death, may we be safe under thy protection, till we are raised to a state of endless felicity, by a glorious resurrection from the dead, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the resurrection and the life; through whom, to God the father, be everlasting praises. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

GREAT and glorious Lord our God! who fillest heaven and earth with thy presence, and art intimately acquainted with every thing that passeth throughout thy whole creation!—By thy power were the heavens made, and all the hosts of them by the breath of thy mouth; the earth also, and all that dwell therein. And by thy wisdom thou hast established all things.

Blessed be thy name, that we are enabled to trace out, in some degree, thy being and perfections, thy power, wisdom, and goodness, from the visible things of the creation. For the order and harmony of the universe, the magnificence of the sun, moon and stars, and the various inhabitants of earth and sea created by thy power and sustained by thy goodness, shew that thou art God and that there is none besides thee.—We feel thy constant, happy agency and effects, in every thing which befalls us through the various changes and stages of our lives. Thy power, O God, at first brought us into being.—Thy wisdom guides and directs all our affairs. Thy providential goodness preserves, supports, and constantly provides for our well being here, and hath graciously promised a glorious reward to our perseverance in religious duties in a future happy state, when time and days to us here shall be no more—that to him that endureth to the end thou wilt give the crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Thou God of all grace, and giver of all good! write a law of love and thankfulness upon our

hearts, for all thy goodness to us. O that we we were duly sensible of our numberless obligations, and more active and diligent in thy service! Lord, encrease our faith, and awaken our attention to the important concerns of our eternal state. May our hope be in lively exercise; and may the fear of thy displeasure guard us from danger.

Blessed be thy name, for all the motives and encouragements we have to holiness and a Godly life and conversation! O Lord, help us to make a right use of all our mercies, and to walk worthy of the hope of the gospel. May we ever follow the example of our blessed Saviour.—If he was meek and lowly of heart, how ought we to lament before thee our vanity and pride! If he had not where to lay his head, how unbecoming is it in us to be anxiously solicitous about the things of this world! If he loved mankind so well, as to die for us, how ought we to love one another! O that the same mind may be in us, which was in the Lord Jesus! O that we may have wisdom and fortitude steadily to adhere to the perfect rules of duty laid down in his gospel! Suffer us not to deceive ourselves with a vain shew of godliness. Help us, good Lord, to persevere in a faithful obedience to all thy commandments.

We would at this time, acknowledge and lament before thee, our heavenly father, every instance of ingratitude and disobedience against thee, all our manifold offences, and all our foolish and faulty conduct. Gracious God! look in pity upon us, and forgive all our transg ressions, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assist us, we pray thee, by thy holy Spirit, to subdue every evil inclination and to govern all our appetites and passions, by the rules of reason and religion. The experience we have had in time past of our own frailty and weakness, makes us diffident of our own strength.—We therefore, beg earnestly for holy fortitude and steadiness in the path of our duty, to the end of life.

Lord prepare us for whatever we may meet with in this world. Let no prosperity corrupt our integrity. Let no adversity abate our trust and confidence in thee.

We desire, with a realizing, joyful hope, to look forwards beyond the fleeting enjoyments of time, to the permanent blessing of eternity.—And whenever we are summoned hence, may we have that hope in death, which will never make us ashamed.

Blessed be God for the mercies of the past day. Graciously guard us from all evils and dangers of the night. Hear our prayers. Pardon our sins. And do more for us and our's, than we can ask or think, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we would recommend unto thee, our heavenly father all our fellow creatures,—our dear native country—our civil government—the concerns of religion and interests of never dying souls—all that are sick or afflicted—and all that are particularly near and dear to us. Suit thy favors to every peculiar case and subject, for thou art a God of all power and mercy—and unto thee we would ascribe all honour, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THURSDAY MORNING.

O God, who art the Father and God of all being! We thine unworthy servants, in the deepest sense of our dependence and imperfections, do now approach thy divine majesty, beseeching thee, out of the abundance of thy great goodness, to be merciful unto us.

Many, we must acknowledge, have been our failings and neglects through the course of our lives. If thou shouldest be extreme to mark and to punish whatever has been in any instance and degree amiss in our conduct, we could not hope for any portion of thy favor.

But, O Lord, the goodness and propitiousness of thy nature, as declared by thy holy gospel, and preached by thy Son Jesus Christ, encourage us to hope in thee for mercy and forgiveness, according to the promises of that gospel. We would therefore, this morning, come boldly to thy throne of grace, and make known to thee the desires of our souls. And we feel the more encouraged to come unto thee, although thou art pure and holy, with all our sins and imperfections, because thou hast promised to be merciful to our transgressions; yea, Lord, because thou has said, that although our sins are as crimson, they shall be as wool; though they be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow. The bruised reed thou wilt not break—the smoking flax thou wilt not quench. We earnestly intreat thee, O Lord, to forgive every thought, every word and action, by which we have offended thee or violated any of thy commandments, from the begin-

ning of our rational life, to this hour. Help us in future to live in newness of life and in greater conformity to thy holy will. May it henceforth be our meat and drink to do the will of our Father who is in heaven, under the cheering and consoling hope, that when Christ, who is our life shall appear we will also appear with him glory.

We would bless and praise thy holy name, for all that thy Son Jesus Christ did, and taught, and suffered in this world, in order to redeem mankind from the power and punishment of their sins, to lead them to the knowledge of thee, and the practice of their duty, and to confirm to them the joyful hope of future happiness. For these, and all thy mercies, which respect another and a better life, our souls would magnify the Lord, and all the powers within us praise his holy name.

We would also bless and thank thee, our heavenly father, for those many instances of thy mercy, by which our situation in this short and uncertain life, is made much happier than it could have been without them. Thou hast afforded us, not only the necessary supports, but many of the most desirable conveniences of this state Continue, O God, we beseech thee, these temporal blessings, if consistent with our chief and eternal good. If, for wise ends, thou seest fit to deny them, lead us by whatever path thou choosest, to life everlasting. We resign ourselves and all our concerns into thine hands, and entreat thee to be our governor and guide unto death.

O let the sense of all thy undeserved mercies

inspire us with such a gratitude, as may express itself in the suitable returns of a good life, and a holy conversation; and with such a love of God, as may manifest itself in the keeping of thy commandments.

May the love of all our fellow-creatures abide and abound in our hearts, and shew itself in every instance of our temper and behaviour towards them.

We would pity and pray for all that are in affliction and distress. We would desire to cherish that heaven born charity, which purifieth the heart and worketh by love. We beg for the afflicted, whatever we could reasonably ask for ourselves, were we in their condition. Assist them O God of mercy, in their several trials and conflicts; and guide them to such a degree of contentment, resignation and patience, as may render their afflictions the happy occasion of their greater future glory. As far as it is consistent with the purposes of thy wisdom and providence, grant them a speedy issue from all their misfortunes and sorrows.

Blessed be God, for the safety and refreshment of the past night, and for all the blessings we enjoy this morning. Keep us, good God, this day from sin, and from every distressing evil, if it be thy will. May we daily walk in thy fear, be guided by thy wisdom, preserved by thy providence, and influenced by thy grace, to the perfect knowledge, and sincere performance of thy holy will upon earth, and to the enjoyment of that eternal and unchangeable happiness in heaven, reserved for thy faithful servants, and promised by Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb of God,

that taketh away the sin of the world; who suffered the ignominious and painful death of the cross, to procure for us an inheritance that is incorruptible, full of glory and that fadeth not away—To him be honor, dominion, glory, and praise forever and ever. *Amen.*

THURSDAY EVENING.

O God, the supreme maker and governor of the world, perfect in all that is truly great, and lovely, and excellent! We thine unworthy servants appear before thee, under the deepest sense of thy glorious attributes, and of our own great and manifold imperfections and sins.

Under this sense of condition, the only satisfaction and support of our minds is, the belief of thy nature, characters and government. Thou art too just and too good, not to accept and assist the sincere endeavors of thy creatures, to reform whatever has been amiss in their past conduct. Yea, thou hast sent Jesus Christ into the world to save us from our sins, and to declare to us plainly the terms of forgiveness and favor from thee—that whosoever believeth in him, shall not perish, but have life everlasting. O the heighth and the depth of the love God, who hath thus pitied us in our low estate.

In the name of Jesus, therefore, we present ourselves before thee this evening, and humbly implore the forgiveness of all our faults, and follies, and sins, of every wilful transgression, of every omission, or careless performance of duty,

of the vanity of our thoughts, of the pride of our hearts, of our worldly mindedness, of our unguarded expressions, and of every thing in our temper and conduct which has been contrary to thy holy laws, and displeasing to thee. Thou hast ever been present to observe us, though we have not seen, yea though we may have forgotten thee, our kind benefactor, the whole course of our lives has been before thee. For whither shall we go from thy spirit? or whither shall we flee from thy presence? If we ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if we make our bed in hell, behold thou art there; and if we take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead us, and thy right hand hold us up.

O merciful father, grant us that forgiveness, which we all stand in need of. We ask it only upon those terms laid down in the gospel of thy son, even the reasonable terms of repentance and reformation of heart and life. We hope, we do sincerely repent of all our sins. We do resolve, by thy grace, to correct whatever has been thus far amiss in our past life. O do thou, God of all grace, and giver of all good, we earnestly entreat thee, by thy spirit and blessing, establish and succeed these the purposes and desires of our souls.

Graciously, O Lord, receive our petitions for every good thing, which is fit for us to pray for. Teach us to pray—And do thou hear, accept and answer our supplications.

We acknowledge thee to be the author of our being. Thou art the original of all our happiness, the giver of all our mercies, and the dispo-

ser of all our condition. We profess our dependence upon thee alone for every thing we need or desire. We are sensible thou art the tenderest father, and the best friend of thy creatures, disposed to lead us to our greatest good, and to assist our sincere endeavors after it.

Blessed be God for Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent into our world, to shew us the way to everlasting life and happiness. We rejoice in the glorious example he set before us of humility, patience and resignation. We admire that ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which he so powerfully recommended unto us, which is in thy sight of such great price, and which will contribute so much to our own comfort, and to the happiness of all around us.

May we always endeavor to bear, with compassion and meekness, the faults and weaknesses of one another. May we carfully suppress all that resentment of injuries, which would settle down into malice or revenge. May we never lose the guard we ought always to maintain over our passions, our thoughts, our words, and our behaviour, so necessary to the discharge of our duty to God, to our own souls, and to all around us.

And O may we be diligent in business and fervent in spirit, serving the Lord—seeking first the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof, trusting that all other things will be added thereto; yea whatsoever our hands find to do, may we do it with all our might, knowing that there is no work, nor device nor wisdom, nor knowledge in the grave, whither we are hastening. In thy kind hands we desire to leave

ourselves, and all that is dear to us. From thee we recieve all we enjoy, and to thy generous goodness all our thanks are due.

With submission to thy holy will, we would beg the security and continuance of the good things we already enjoy. If agreeable to thy wise and gracious purposes, defend and preserve us, and all we are most nearly connected with and concerned for, from every distressing evil.

Let the consideration of the certainty of death, influence us to endeavour to make it happy by such a holy and virtuous life, as may give us a well grounded hope of thy mercy at last. May the prospect of glory and happiness hereafter exalt our minds above a too fond regard to this state of sin and misery. May we be not only ready, but willing, whenever the summons cometh, to make a comfortable exit out of life. And do thou, O gracious father, receive our departing spirits into the arms of thy mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed be God for another day's preservation and comforts. May the angel of thy presence defend us from the dangers of this night. Bless our slumbers to us. May our sleep be sweet. May our resting hours refresh and fit us for another day's work and duty. May all our days be filled up with proper duties, that, when time and days on earth shall be no more, we may have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

All we beg, in the name, and as the disciples of Jesus Christ, through whom we offer up all our worshship, in whom at last we desire to be

found, and through whom to thee, O our God and father, be all honor and praise for evermore.—*Amen.*

FRIDAY MORNING.

O Almighty God and merciful father! We lament that although thou are good and merciful, we are careless, ungrateful sinners, that although thou hast declared, that thy sheep know thy voice and follow thee, we, like lost sheep, have gone astray. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. If thou wert strict to mark, and severe to punish all our transgressions, we should stand condemned in thy sight, and be unable to answer for one sin, in a thousand.

But, for ever blessed be thy name, thy nature is goodness itself. Thou art ever inclined to pity and pardon those, that are truly penitent.—Thou art ever ready to accept and to assist those, who endeavor sincerely to reform what has been amiss in their hearts and lives, and who thus desire heartily to comply with the terms of thy son's gospel.

We, who are now a worshiping family in thy presence, humbly beg leave to declare ourselves sorry for all our sins. We hope, we do sincerely repent, of all our transgressions against thee, our heavenly father, of all our offences against our fellow creatures, and of all our neglects of our own spiritual interests.

O gracious father, we entreat thy assistance, to reform whatever has been wanting in our past

temper and life. Strengthen thou our good resolutions. Help us in our pious endeavors to cure every wrong inclination, and every bad habit.—Fortify us against every temptation, and establish us in the way of piety and duty.

As our days and time are passing hastily over our heads, may we find, by comfortable experience, that we are going forwards in a course of habitual preparation for the end of time. And, when we are called to judgment, may we give up our accounts with joy, and be crowned as the faithful servants of our God, and the consistent disciples of our Master.

We now desire, in a particular manner, to put ourselves under thy protection for this day. We implore thy fatherly care over us, that no real evil may approach us. May our souls and bodies be safe under that good and powerful providence, in which we entirely trust. May we this day and all the days, of our lives go on our ways rejoicing conscious that thy favors and tender mercies can alone sweeten all our enjoyments and give to our existence the most lasting comfort and felicity. While the world Alas! can give us nothing but unsatisfying portions, thou alone canst gratify the cravings of the immortal spirit, yea, thy favor is life, and thy loving kindness is better than life. We desire therefore to dedicate our services to thee, the only true God and Jesus christ, whom thou hast graciously sent, to be a propitation for our sins, believing that thou careth for us.

We pray, O Lord, for the happiness and good estate of all mankind. May they all know, worship, and obey thee, according to thy will.

May those, who name the name of Christ, live as becomes his holy gospel, and depart from all iniquity.

Put a stop to the miseries occasioned by ambition, and tyranny, temporal or spiritual. Put an end to idolatry, superstition, persecution, and oppression. Give success to the labors of all those who study the happiness of thy creatures; —and particularly of those, who preach the gospel of thy son in simplicity and love.

Regard, O God, in much mercy, our native country. Pardon our crying sins. Lead us to all true repentance, that iniquity may not be our ruin, nor prevent the mercies we might otherwise hope for.

Bless, we beseech thee, with all blessings of soul and body, our relations and friends, leading them to all virtue and happiness here, and rewarding with eternal glory and life hereafter. Requite the kindness of those, who have done or designed us good. Pardon the malice of all, who have done or wished us evil, guiding them to repentance, and shewing thy mercy upon them.

Under a deep sense, O Lord, of the miseries experienced by many of our fellow creatures, of the wants of the poor, and of the sicknesses, pains, and sorrows of the afflicted, we tenderly sympathize with them, and intercede for them. In thy kind providence may they find relief; and may they have reason to rejoice in the end for the days wherein they have seen adversity.

We thank thee, O Lord, for the comforts of another night, and for the blessings of this morning. We beg the continuance of thy care over us, and of thy blessings upon us and ours. Pardon

all our sins. Graciously accept of our poor imperfect services, which we present unto thee alone through the merits of thy Son, our blessed Saviour. *Amen.*

FRIDAY EVENING.

O THOU eternal, and ever blessed Lord our God! Thou art the fountain of all happiness, and the giver of every good and perfect gift. Thou dost mercifully withhold from us those evils which our sins do deserve. From thee we receive unnumbered, unmerited blessings.

At thy footstool we bow, this evening, with all humility and reverence to acknowledge before thee our infinite obligations to thy paternal bounty. We thank thee, O Lord, for all the blessings of life; for health and sustenance and all our social comforts.

O that all the families of the earth were families of prayer, each having an altar, and the daily incense of acceptable worship! Thou, O Lord, hast graciously promised, that wherever two or three are gathered together in thy name and fear, thou wilt be in the midst of them. Be it unto us, thy servants, according to thy word.

Look down upon this family with condescending goodness. Help us to worship thee in spirit and in truth. We are sensible, thou needest not to be informed of our wants or weakness.—But thou hast encouraged us in thy holy word to make our requests known unto thee. Thou hast promised a gracious acceptance of our sincere endeavors to serve and honor thee.

We earnestly pray, O God, for the pardon of all our sins, for the sanctifying influences of thy holy spirit, and for the gift of grace and eternal life. These invaluable blessings we importunately implore thy goodness to bestow upon us, for thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.—Give us hearts to fear thee, and to keep thy commandments always, that it may go well with us both now and forever.

Let thy holy word be the rule of our lives, and the ground of our hopes. May it be abundantly efficacious to the saving of our immortal souls.—O may our hearts be sincere and upright in the sight of God. When our judge shall come to take an account of us, may we not be ashamed, may we not be found wanting, or insincere.

May we ever detest and resist that pride, which goeth before destruction. May we humble ourselves, that we may be exalted in due time. Teach us to follow peace with all men, and to love one another, as Christ also hath loved us.—May we never despise any for their low estate, but be kindly affectioned to all; shewing to others that mercy, which we need ourselves from others, and, above all, from thee. By the diligent and constant discharge of our duty to God, to our own souls, and to one another, may we be getting ready for a happy death, and for a glorious resurrection to everlasting life and happiness.

Blessed be God, for the many mercies of the past day, and for the comfortable circumstances in which we now meet together. Many, O Lord, are the dangers we have all our life long esca-

ped, by the kind and powerful interposition of thy good providence. If we have escaped any temptations to sin, by which others have fallen, and from which we were in danger, to thee be all the praise.

Keep us safe under the shadow of thy wings this night. May our sleep be refreshing to our wearied bodies. May our souls find rest in thee, and in the joyful hope of thy continued favor unto eternal life.

Bless, O Lord, all for whom we are particularly concerned. May our relations and friends find favor in thy sight, and have every suitable and sufficient good bestowed upon them.

Pity those, whom we would in a particular manner recommend to thy fatherly compassion. Support, comfort and relieve those, who are under great trials, pains, or sorrows. Be unto them a very present help in the times of their difficulty and need. Prepare them for thy whole will concerning them, and in thine own due time deliver them out of all their distresses.

We would refer ourselves, our family, and friends wholly unto thee. Give us what is necessary and good for us in this world. And, above all, O God, dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation in the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

SATURDAY MORNING.

O THOU universal, all-governing, and all-perfect Lord of heaven and of earth! We acknowledge that we rejoice in thine eternal, unconfined government and providence. Thy kingdom, O Lord, is an everlasting kingdom. Thy providence is most merciful and wise. These considerations dispel the gloom from the darkest appearances of human life, give a comfortable aspect to the whole scene of nature, and are alone able to administer true peace, solid contentment, good hope, and permanent joy. Under thine almighty, infallible, and most gracious rule, we are satisfied, all things must be conducted in the wisest and best manner, and made to work together for good in the universe of God. If there are any seeming inequalities, any dark unaccountable appearances in thy works or ways, we ascribe these to our own ignorance, arising from our short confined views of things, and would, with cheerful submission, wait the time of the fuller revelation of thy righteous judgments. Then we are assured, the whole intelligent world shall be made clearly to see, and loudly to acknowledge, that all thy ways are equal, and that, if clouds and darkness are sometimes round about thee, mercy, truth and faithfulness have always been the pillars of thy throne, and the rules of thy conduct. Highly therefore does it become us, to pay a most willing obedience to thy holy laws, and to place an entire confidence in thy providence.

Convince us, O Lord, of the evil, deformed,

and ruinous nature of sin. Make us sensible that by wilfully transgressing thy commands, we become chargeable, with trampling upon thy most righteous authority, ungratefully counteracting the kind designs of thy patience and goodness, and foolishly disregarding our own best interests and sovereign felicity.

Impress our minds with a just sense, of the unnatural rebellion, shameful perverseness, and extreme folly of disobedience against thee, our God. O may our breasts be filled with the sincerest remorse for every instance wherein we have been chargeable with it. Excite within us an invincible abhorrence of all vice, for the future. Engage us, with incessant vigilance, to guard against it, and to fly from it, as the worst of evils.

May a lively habitual love of goodness and of virtue, as in itself most excellent—as the supreme perfection and happiness of our natures—as promoting the joy of society, and the universal good of mankind—as being the sacred law of thee, our creator, governor, and judge, be the best recommendation to thy favor here, the great qualification for the heavenly felicity hereafter, and engage our ardent love, and inviolable practice of holiness and virtue, to the end of life.

In whatever instances our temper and behaviour have been inconsistent with thy will and our duty, graciously forgive us, we entreat thee, O thou father of mercies; and assist us in our endeavours, to correct what is wrong, to cultivate what is excellent and good, and to practice whatever thou hast shewn us to be our duty, for

the time to come. May a reigning habitual disposition of soul towards universal righteousness sanctify our whole conduct. And be thou, we beseech thee, a light unto our feet and a lamp unto our path, to preserve us from the errors of our ways in the house of our pilgrimage.

May we be enabled to receive and improve, in a right manner, all thy dispensations, and to maintain a truly Christian temper and deportment through all the trying scenes we may meet with in this life. Let neither prosperity, nor adversity, drive us from our proper duty, nor rob us of the truest self enjoyment, of peace of mind, the joyful consciousness of the divine favor, and the cheering hopes of a blessed immortality, when time and days, with us here, shall be no more.

As to temporal things, not knowing what is best for us, we presume not to make particular requests; but would calmly repose our trust in thee. Alas we know not what is good for man all the days of his vain life which he spendeth as a shadow. We would absolutely cast our cares upon thy providence, and would rely on thy paternal goodness and benignity. Deal with us and our's according to thy wise and good pleasure. Thou knowest what we want—what we can bear—what we can do—and what will best promote our true interest. In thy hands therefore we leave all our concerns. Let such circumstances in life, whether agreeable or disagreeable to our natural desires, be allotted, as will most effectually secure and improve us in the practice of holiness—and advance our preparation for thy heavenly kingdom.

By sincere repentance for all our sins—by a thorough reformation of all that has been thus far amiss in our temper and conduct,—and by a temper and life prevailingly conformed to the rules of reason, of conscience, and of God, and to the laws and tenor of that divine religion we profess—may we be gradually ripening for the employments and felicities of the heavenly state.

And at length, by a continued improvement in goodness, and in all the habits of christian obedience, may we be prepared for a comfortable exit out of this world, and a joyful entrance into that kingdom of glory and blessedness designed, in the eternal purpose of God for all the good, from the foundation of the world. O may we all be admitted to that state of rest and joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.—*Amen.*

SATURDAY EVENING.

O THOU most glorious and ever blessed Lord our God! With reverence would we now approach thy presence, and pay our social homage to thee, the Lord our Maker! We acknowledge our numberless obligations to thee and praise thee, with grateful hearts, for all thy goodness bestowed upon us and our's through life, to this present time. We bless thee, for our constant preservation by thy kind providence—for the health we have enjoyed—for the blessings of peace, the protection of good laws, and the comforts of society and friendship—for thy gener-

ous supply of our daily returning wants,—and particularly, for thy goodness to us, through the day and week, now about to close.

Thy hand unseen, we are sensible, supports us continually. Thy loving kindness surrounds, thy benign influence cheers and comforts us, every day, every moment. Thou art doing us good continually.

In a more especial manner would we praise thy great and holy name, for the gospel of salvation, and for the unspeakably great and glorious privileges we enjoy thereby,—for the divine light it affords—for the perfect rules of life it contains—for the blessed encouragement it yields to repentance—for the powerful assistance it gives to virtuous endeavours—for the attractive examples of perfect goodness it exhibits to our imitation—for the inspiring hopes it sets before us—and for the grand promises of eternal rewards to persevering righteousness. O may a sense of all this goodness lead us to gratitude and love for all thy mercies, and to steady resolutions of better obedience for the time to come.

But we must acknowledge, with penitential concern, that we have, in many instances, acted very unsuitably to our state and circumstances, undutifully towards thee our supreme Lord, and rightful sovereign, and very inconsistently with our christian obligations.

Our hope is in thy mercy, for the pardon of our past transgressions upon repentance, and for thine acceptance of our sincere endeavours after a more upright conduct and better obedience for the future. May we never abuse thy readiness to forgive, or foolishly take encouragement from

thence to proceed in any instance of disobedience; sensible that, under thy righteous government, though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not go unpunished, for we know that thou art of purer eyes, than to behold iniquity, and that holiness becometh thine house forever.

Let thy goodness to us make us above all things afraid of offending thee. May it heighten and inflame our sense of obligation and love of thee. May it teach us in imitation of thee, to desire to be more extensively useful to our fellow creatures.

May no instances of adversity, we may at any time meet with, fill our hearts with anxious solicitude, or lead us in any degree, to distrust or murmur against thy divine providence. Help us, O father, to bear whatever afflictions thou seest fit to lay upon us with humility, patience, and entire resignation. Thus may they become the means, of correcting what is wrong, of improving [illegible]t is good, of purifying our natures, and of working out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Help us to cultivate in our souls every serious and pious disposition, towards thee, our God —and every benevolent affection and principle, toward our fellow men. May we be content with our station and lot, whatever it be; satisfied with all thine appointment, and willing to resign our spirits into the hands of him who gave them, whenever the summons cometh.

And, seeing our days and weeks are sliding fast away, may we hasten on in our preparation for a state of endless perfection and felicity.— May everlasting objects affect us more than any visible possessions. May our eternal well-be-

ing become our greatest concern and care, till we are ready for the future harvest of immortal glory, in thine heavenly kingdom.

Continue thy favor to us, good God, by giving us a night of comfortable repose. Fit us for and help us in, the services of the ensuing day; that they may contribute to our preparation for that sabbath, which remaineth for the people of God.

Bless all the faithful ministers of the gospel of Christ, with clear heads, with honest hearts and with exemplary lives. May all that name the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Bless, O Lord, the whole human race. May we, in this nation, be the people of the Lord, and know, love, and serve thee from the greatest to the least. Enrich the cabinet councils of the United States of America, with steady virtue, honest zeal and public spirit. Heal our divisions; reconcile all our animosities; and [illegible] peace, love, and concord abound among us. [illegible]ward the benefactors of mankind. Break the yokes of oppression, wherever felt; and keep all orders of men from abusing a time of gospel light and liberty, of health, peace, trade, and plenty.

Prepare us, O Lord, for that hour, when all worldly succors shall fail us, when worldly power cannot deliver us, and when worldly enjoyments will depart from us. And, at last, may we be able with great tranquility to resign them all, in the well-grounded hopes of a more enduring substance; through thy great mercy in Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour.—*Amen.*

WEEK III.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O EVER blessed, and gracious Lord our God! The same yesterday, to day and forever, the same almighty power, which at first brought us out of nothing, to see the light of life, hath brought us through the darkness of the night past, to see the light of this sacred day. Blessed be our God for the opportunities and privileges of our sabbaths! We rejoice in their return, and pray, that they may be continued to us, and improved by us, to the praise and glory of God, and the edification and comfort of our never dying souls; yea, Lord, we consider a day in thy courts, as better than a thousand. We would rather be door-keepers in the courts of our God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

We welcome this morning, as opening upon us a day of solemn worship, and saving instruction. We desire to keep it holy unto the Lord, in honor of the exercises of devotion. We would observe it, in honor of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, who, on the first day of the week, rose again from the dead, whereby he was declared to be the Son of God with power.

O that, by serious meditation upon his death, and resurrection, we may be brought to imitate him, in dying unto sin by true repentance, and in living unto God, by righteousness, and newness of life.

Forgive us, gracious God, that we have lived so insensible of our great and manifold obligations unto thee, so regardless of our best interests, so little concerned to be approved by an ever present God, and to be happy in a certain and approaching eternity.

Assist us, heavenly father, by thy grace, that we may sincerely repent of our past negligences and disobedience; and that thus we may, upon good grounds, plead the promises which thou hast made to the penitent, of pardon through Jesus Christ. We desire to be more diligent for the future in working out our salvation. Let not the present season and opportunity be lost upon us; but make us wise to understand and to follow the things, which regard our everlasting welfare; not knowing, but that they may, before another sabbath, be hidden from our eyes.

May our religious performances this day be very sincere and fervent. May we confess our sins with an ingenuous sorrow, and with vigorous purposes of leading a holy life for the future. May our supplications for others cherish in our souls a generous benevolence to our fellow-creatures, and be graciously heard by thee, our common father.

Fill our hearts with gratitude, whilst we sing thy praises; that we may grow meet for the future world of perfect gratitude, praise, and blessedness; for eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor hath it entered the heart of man to conceive, the glories which God hath in store for them that love and fear him; yea, we feel assured, that the beauties of the heavenly world are far greater than those of this valley of tears.

Dispose us, O Lord, to attend to the instructions of thy word, with an earnest desire to know thy will, and a fixed resolution to practice it.—And do thou accompany it with power, that it may convince us of sin, determine us to our duty, and guide us to life everlasting.

And, O thou lover of souls, succeed, in all thy churches this day, the ministrations of the gospel of thy son, that sinners may be converted unto God, and that thy saints may be built up in holiness and comfort, to life eternal.

We commit ourselves to the protection of thy providence and grace through the whole of this day. Preserve us from every evil we fear or deserve; especially from that, which we ought to dread, as the greatest evil—from offending God, when we are professing to worship and honor him. Help us to discharge every duty this day, both public and private, to thine acceptance, and our own great benefit and comfort. May we be making happy advances in the divine life, and in our preparation for a glorious eternity. Thus may we become completely blessed at last, in thy likeness, love, and enjoyment forever.

All we humbly ask, in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again, and is ascended up into heaven, to prepare a place of endless happiness for all his faithful servants.—Through him we do now, and at all times, ascribe unto thee, O God, glory, dominion, and praise for ever and ever. *Amen.*

SUNDAY EVENING.

O most gracious Jehovah! Thou art the father of our spirits, and hast formed us for an eternal existence. Thou hast made known to us thy will and our duty. Blessed be thy name, thou hast, in thy holy word, acquainted us, how to obtain a meetness for that state of nobler being, and blessedness, in the perfection of knowledge, goodness, and devotion forever! Thou hast shewed us what is good, commanding us to cultivate the love of God, and to practice that which is good, amidst all the distractions and temptations of the present state.

Blessed be God, for forming us with these excellent capacities of our nature, and for making this short life improveable to such immense advantage! In how clear a light hast thou set before us an immortality of perfection and felicity, to be attained in a future state! And how fully hast thou confirmed it to us, if we follow the example, and obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, thy beloved Son! Thou didst not only empower him to establish our faith in thy promise of eternal life, by numerous miracles, even by raising the dead to life; but didst appoint him also to seal it with his testimony in death. Having been an example, of the temper and life required as our preparation for heaven, thou madest him an example also, of the greatness and certainty of the promised reward and blessedness, conducting him through death by a glorious resurrection, and a visible reception into heaven, thus to pos-

sess the felicity promised to all his faithful followers.

Blessed be God for Jesus Christ! for the gracious promises, and glorious prospects he has set before us! How plain are his directions! How reasonable his commands! The observance of which renders us happy in ourselves, benevolent to others, and like the spirits already in heaven. How encouraging are his assurances of full forgiveness and acceptance, even to those who have acted against all this grace and goodness, if they truly repent, and amend their ways! How sweet the promises of assistance, in proportion to our weakness, and to the difficulties we may find in our way to an established holiness and piety!

Forgive us, O father of mercies, if we have not yet fully complied with these most gracious and condescending offers. Forgive us, that the best of us have made no greater proficiency in the Christian temper; that we are not more moderate in our desires and pursuits after worldly objects, and no more attentive to the concerns of immortality.

We now resolve, O Lord, thy grace enabling us, to comply with the condition of pardon established in thy covenant of mercy. We would not only profess faith in thy Son; but would become sincerely and heartily devoted to him.—We would not merely lament, what we have done amiss, but would strive to reform it; that we may daily grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.—And, by a happy improvement of every means of grace we enjoy here, may be growing more wor-

thy of thine acceptance, and of eternal happiness at last.

Blessed be God for the advantages we have for religious improvement; and particularly, for this day's opportunity of attending public worship! Forgive the many defects of our religious services. Thou knowest the human frame, and wilt not despise or reject sincerity of heart in our attempts to serve thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We beseech thee, to accept of our thanks for all thy mercies, spiritual and temporal. Continue thy goodness to us. Protect and secure our habitation, our dear connections and friends, this night, from every hurtful accident. Make our sleep refreshing. Give us to see another day, rejoicing in thy favor, and deeply convinced of the value of life and time, as given us for securing an eternity of blessedness.

O hear our prayers. Accept our offerings of praise. Pardon all our sins. Give us an interest in thine everlasting favor and love—for thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

MONDAY MORNING.

O most glorious and incomprehensible majesty! Thou dwellest in light inaccessible, and full of glory. Thou art worthy to receive all honor, and homage, and praise from all thine intelligent creatures.

In a firm persuasion of thine existence, of the

adorable perfections of thy nature, and of thy governing providence, would we worship at the footstool of the throne of thy grace this morning. O may we never be found amongst those who live as without God in the world!

We believe, thou dost most reasonably expect the constant tribute of gratitude and obedience from us, on whom thou art pleased to bestow so many undeserved favors. O that we may ever give unto thee the glory due unto thy holy name!

We hope, it is the desire of our souls to maintain an habitual and lively sense of our encreasing obligations to thee, and our necessary dependence upon thee for all we enjoy, or yet hope for.

We thank thee, O most merciful father, for the favors of the night past. Thy goodness smiles upon us with the dawn of every morning. And with the return of every night, thou art pleased to draw the curtains of rest and protection round about us.

Goodness and mercy have followed us all our days. Blessed be that God, whose kind providence has been the tender nurse of our infancy, the guardian of our childhood, the guide of our youth. the support of our riper years, and who has kindly provided us with all the good things we have wanted. Hitherto the Lord hath helped us. May the loving kindness of our God suitably affect our minds, and excite within us pious affections, and fervent thankfulness. Above all, O do thou help us to acknowledge our obligations to thee, by walking in all thy statutes and ordinances, blameless.

Through all the business, pursuits, and a-

musements of life, may we carry in our minds a becoming sense of our own frailty, and of the uncertainty of our stay in this world. May we ever be found upon our watch, in readiness for our last summons, whenever it cometh. May we then be able to give up an account of ourselves with joy. And in that great decisive day, when a separation shall be made between the precious and the vile, between those who serve God, and those who serve him not, may our characters be declared before the assembled world, to our honor and rejoicing. Then may we hear that blessed sentence passed upon us; Well done, good and faithful servants; enter ye into the joy of your Lord.

We offer up our intercessions for the whole rational creation. Look down with compassion upon the ignorant, idolatrous part of the world. Enlighten the dark corners of the earth with the knowledge of the truth, as it is in Jesus.

Bless our native land with health, peace, and plenty. May a work of reformation be promoted amongst us, by all in authority over us. Give us upright and consciencious magistrates, who are disposed to practice justice and execute mercy; and faithful, zealous, and successful gospel ministers, who ornament the doctrine of our Saviour, by laudable and sincere efforts, to promote the cause of truth and righteousness in our country.

We recommend to thy tender regards, all under affliction, pain and distress. Suit thy mercy and help to their various cases and necessities.

Bless our relatives and friends with every

needful good—Reward our benefactors, and forgive our enemies.

Bless, O father, this worshipping family.—Pity our weaknesses: pardon our sins; watch over us, for good, through this day, and all our days. Hear our prayers, and accept of us through Jesus Christ, our all-sufficient Saviour, for whom we can never enough praise thee; and through whom we ascribe unto thee the kingdom, power, and glory for evermore. *Amen.*

MONDAY EVENING.

O LORD our God! The eternal and infinite Jehovah! In comparison of whose dominion all the kingdoms of the world are as nothing and vanity! The adorable Lord of angels and of men! To thee of right belongeth all our worship, thanksgiving and praise, together with all honor, reverence and obedience from the whole creation for ever!

We desire with all humility, at the close of this day, to offer up our sacrifice of homage, gratitude, and adoration unto thee our heavenly father, who art daily loading us with many undeserved favors.

Blessed be God, we have been at all times under the protection of a kind providence and exempted from many distressing calamities, which might have befallen us. Many evils have we escaped, which we could neither foresee nor prevent. From many afflictive sorrows

have we been preserved, which others feel, and under which they groan, being burdened.

If we have this day done what we ought not to have done, omitted what we ought to have performed, taken any indecent unbecoming liberties, acted unsuitably to our profession and obligations, or offended thee our God, in thought, word, or deed, O Lord, forgive us, through Jesus Christ, the Mediator of the new covenant; and for his sake, we beseech thee, forgive all our numerous sins; in as much as thou hast vouchsafed to declare, that thou wilt be merciful to our transgressions, and remember not against us the trespasses and sins for which we mourn. And O, do thou work in us, to will and to do, of thy good pleasure. May we by faith, repentance, and uniform obedience, act so for the future, as to become proper objects of pardoning mercy. Though in many things we offend daily, may we not be found amongst those who designedly depart from God and duty.

To this end, afford us, we implore thee, thy divine aid, that we may be superior to all temptations, and able to perform every duty. May we live soberly, righteously, and Godly in this present world, looking for the blessed hope, and the glorious appearance of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We pray, that it may be our governing desire, and our prevailing endeavor, to know and do the will of our heavenly father, to do good, to be useful all round us, whilst in this state of probation, to employ our time and talents well, and to be making advances in the religious life, so as

to be better qualified for the enjoyments of the heavenly world.

May a sense of the redeeming love of our exalted Lord, in giving himself a sacrifice for our sins, in becoming poor, that we through his poverty might become rich, tend to support us under all the troubles and afflictions of life; yea, may a conciousness that we are thine by creation and adoption, constrain us, to live not ourselves, but to Christ, who died for us and rose again. Go thou with us, we pray thee, where we go, and stay with us, where we stay, and lead us, safely through the various changing scenes of life. Be thou to us a present help, in every time of need, and in the hour of our distress, when our heart and our strenght faileth us, let thy strength be sufficient for us, and thy grace be made perfect in our weakness. Under every pressure may we still be able to rejoice in God, as our portion and felicity. May we live in constant expectation of changes, and prepare for them, that we may in every change welcome the will of God, and cheerfully resign ourselves and all our concerns to thy disposals. Thus may we ever behave ourselves so, that we may on good grounds look for divine mercy unto eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O our God! we desire to testify our charitable regards for all mankind. Have mercy upon the whole human race. Enlighten the ignorant. Reclaim the vicious. Build up thy saints in holiness and comfort. Bring all nations to the worship of thee, the only true God, through Jesus Christ, the only redeemer and Saviour.

Bless our governors, with wisdom from above

—our relations and friends, with all thou seest good for them—the poor, with patience and humility, prudence and diligence—the rich, with compassionate hearts and charitable hands—the sick—the oppressed—the persecuted—the melancholy and troubled mind, with all needful comforts and assistances, suited to their various wants. O pity, and relieve all the sons and daughters of affliction, according to their cases and circumstances. Sanctify all thy dispensations to them; give them patience, and a divine support under their sufferings, and at length a happy issue out of all their tribulations.

Bless us this night, we beseech thee. May we be safe under the protection of a kind providence. May our sleep be refreshing, and our awaking pleasant. And from our large and long experience of thy divine goodness, may we learn to put our whole trust and confidence in thee, for the future; and thus may we hope and quietly wait for thy salvation—through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

TUESDAY MORNING.

O THOU incomprehensibly glorious Jehovah! The Lord God Almighty! The ruler of heaven and earth. We acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting! To thee all Angels cry aloud; the Heavens, and all the Powers therein! To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry, holy!

holy! holy! Lord God of saboath! heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory!

We, thine unworthy servants, would now give unto thee, O father of all mercies, our most humble and hearty thanks, for all thy goodness and loving kindness, to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life: but, above all, for thine inestimable love, in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days.

But we acknowledge before thee, O father of mercies, our great unworthiness of thy favors. Our sins and aggravated transgressions are not hidden from thine all seing eye. We confess, we have erred and strayed from thy ways, like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things, which we ought to have done; and we have done those things, which we ought not to have done.

But thou, O God, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind, by Jesus Christ our Lord.—Verily the bruised reed, thou wilt not break: the smoking flax thou wilt not quench—The

blood of Jesus, which speaketh better things than the blood of Abel, cleanseth from all sin; and has power and virtue to reinstate lost sinners in the love and favor of God.

And, O thou, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather, that he may turn from his wickedness and live, we beseech thee, to give us true repentance, and thy holy spirit. Mortify and kill all vices in us; and so strengthen us by thy grace, that, by the innocency of our lives, and constancy of our faith, we may hereafter live a godly and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name.

Blessed be God, who hath safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same, by thy mighty power; and grant that we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger. Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence. May we always fear to offend thee, our God, and run in the way of thy commands, with cheerfulness and delight.

O thou Creator and preserver of all mankind; we humbly beseech thee, for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldst be pleased to make thy ways known unto them; and thy saving health unto all the nations.

More especially, we pray for the prosperity of the church of Christ, in our land, that it may be so guided and governed by thy good spirit, that all, who profess and call themselves Christians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

Finally, we commend to thy fatherly good-

ness, all our relations, and friends, all in affliction and distress, whether of mind, of body, or of outward circumstances. O comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, granting them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

Mercifully receive the prayers of thy servants. May we both know and do the things we ought. Look with compassion upon our infirmities. Stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us. Grant us such strength and protection, as may support us in all difficulties, and carry us safely through all temptations.—And may our hearts be steadily fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

TUESDAY EVENING.

We praise thee, O God! We acknowledge thee to be the Lord! With angels, and archangels, and all the heavenly hosts, we offer unto thee the Lord, thanksgiving and praise!

For all we have received from thy boundless bounty.—for all we do at present receive and enjoy—and for all the glorious hopes and prospects set before us in the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord, we would praise and magnify thy holy name forever.

We beseech thee, O Lord, whose never failing providence ordereth all things, to keep us continually under thine almighty protection, and

defend us, by thy great mercy from all hurtful things: particularly, from the perils and dangers of this night. Look upon our infirmities, and for the glory of thy great name, turn from us all those evils we deserve. And grant, that, in all our troubles, we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living.

Good Lord, deliver us, from blindness of heart, from pride, envy, hypocrisy, and all uncharitableness—from plague, pestilence, and famine—from battle, murder, and unprepared death—and finally, from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word and ordinances.

In all times of our tribulations—in all times of prosperity,—in the hour of death—and in the day of judgment—Good Lord! deliver us.

Create in us, O God, new and contrite hearts; that we, truly lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our unworthiness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect forgiveness. And grant, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. O God, make clean our hearts within us; and take not we beseech thee, thy holy spirit from us.

O thou, who hast taught us, that all our doings, without charity, profit nothing, let thy good spirit pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the bond of peace, and of all social and christian virtues.

Give us not over to the blindness and corruption of our own misguided imaginations, or perverted passions. Let not satan, who goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he

may devour, have any dominion over us, or lead us in the paths of misery and ruin, but be thou always on our right hand and our left, that we be not moved by any enemy of our souls. When we are weak, being tempted, arm us, O Lord, with the sword of the spirit, to subdue the enemy that would destroy us, or divert us from our peace or welfare.

Let thy good spirit, in all things, direct our hearts and ways. Give pardon and peace to thy servants, that we may be cleansed from all our sins;—that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that finally we lose not the things eternal.

Teach us, O Lord, how frail and uncertain our condition in this world is: and may we so number our days, as to apply our hearts to heavenly wisdom. Pour into our hearts such a love towards thee, that we may obtain an interest in thy promised love and favor, far exceeding all our hope, and desires. Increase in us all goodness; and grant us such a measure of thy grace, that we may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasures.

Almighty God! to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets can be hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy holy spirit, that we may always love and serve thee, to thine acceptance. And, amidst all the changing scenes of this mortal life, may we ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help. And, we beseech thee, do thou direct our hearts in the paths of thy commandments; and lead us in the way to life everlasting.

Almighty God! fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking,—and art always more ready to hear, than we are to pray, we beseech thee, to have compassion upon our infirmities, and to fulfil the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us, in this world, the knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

All we humbly ask of thee, O God, in the name, and as the disciples of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD our God! the eternal uncreated light! Thou hast not left thyself without witness amongst us, the children of men. In thy works around us, in our souls and consciences within, and in thy holy word, we plainly see thy presence, thy power thy wisdom, and thy goodness. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to manifest thyself more fully to our minds. Teach us to know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. Open our minds to receive all useful truth. May we understand the scriptures—and O! may we not remain in darkness, concerning any thing we ought to know, in order to our present peace and duty, and to our future, eternal felicity.

Fix in our minds a steady conviction, that our natural capacity of knowing thee is the chief honor and privilege of our being—that from thence

our most refined pleasures and surest supports must spring—and that these pleasures and supports, whilst we are fitly disposed to receive and enjoy them, can never fail. May we, therefore, keep our hearts with all diligence, that we may preserve these issues of our best life, clear and vigorous. Impress, O Lord, this sentiment upon our minds—that all power, and honor, and delight, every thing great and good, every thing lovely and desirable, are contained in, and must be originally derived from, THEE.

May we have a deep sense of this most sure and important truth, that without the firm belief of thy being, and watchful providence, apprehensions full of dread, and an utter uncertainty of happiness, must be diffused through the whole moral world. Help us, O God, with profound devotion, to celebrate thy praise, for the greatness of thy majesty and wisdom, displayed in all thy wondrous works. All thy works, O Lord, praise thee. From what we know of them, may we learn a rational submission, and confidence in thee.

Let not low and irregular passions, debase and enfeeble our understandings. Let not any corrupt prejudice darken our minds. Let not superstition, by disturbing our imaginations, and alarming our fears, betray us into dishonorable conceptions of thee, and destroy the peace and comfort of our minds. Be thou pleased, O father of our spirits, to grant, that so far as our faculties can extend, we may see thee as thou art, and form just and worthy notions of thine infinite excellence. And may our knowledge of thee

purify and elevate our hearts, and make us partakers of a divine nature.

By a conduct strictly conformable to the rules of a religion rational, wise, and in all respects worthy of thee, O God, may we find that favor in thy sight, which thou hast promised by Jesus Christ to all thy faithful servants; for thy favor is life and thy loving kindness better than life.

O gracious father, pardon all our sins. We must confess, we have often transgressed thy holy laws. We have in many instances acted in a manner unbecoming our reasonable nature, as men, and unsuitable to our high character and hopes, as Christians. We have sinned against thee, yea, even in thy presence, and are not worthy to be called thy children.

But our hope and confidence is in thine infinite mercy, O God, who desirest not that any should perish, but that all should repent and live. Be merciful unto us, O Lord, according to the multitude of thine unchangeable compassions, and blot out all our transgressions, for thy name's sake.

Whatever is needful for us, for this life or a better, gracious Lord, do thou impart unto us.—Keep us this day in thy fear. Give us steadfastness in the path of duty—grace to improve our talents—and humility, diligence, and temperance in all things.

We would be thankful for all thy mercies; particularly, for the mercies of the past night, and for the comforts of this morning. May thy grace be always sufficient for us, to keep us from

falling by temptations into sin: and may thy providence guard us from every danger.

Alas! O Lord, we are short sighted creatures. We know not what is fittest and best for us.—But we trust, thou, who knowest all things, wilt order all events so as will conduce to our best interest and happiness. We would not desire any thing, which would injure our temper, or corrupt our integrity. O God! lift thou up the light of thy reconciled countenance upon us, and bless us according to the richness of thy grace, with such temporal and spiritual blessings as may conduce to our happiness in our present and future state of being. Assist us to be and to do what thou wouldest have us. With cheerful resignation, and well grounded hope, may we rest satisfied with all thine appointments. We esteem ourselves safe in thy protection, and happy in the hope, that all our affairs are ordered and controled by thy kind providence.—With thee, therefore do we leave ourselves and all our concerns, beseeching thee, O God, of our salvation and hope, to be our portion here, and our exceeding great reward at last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O THOU, the first and the greatest of all beings! The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Thee we would desire, at this time, devoutly to worship. We would consecrate our noblest powers, and devote our whole selves to

thee, O God, the supreme object of our religious worship, of our highest reverence, love, and admiration.

Let our hope and confidence centre in thee, as the source from whence all our comfort must flow—as the original fountain of all mercy—and the only sovereign dispenser of happiness to all thy creatures.

O thou God and Father of all! we come unto thee, to beg for greater degrees of wisdom and purity, for the supply of our various wants, and for relief and succour under all our distressess. Overlook thou all our involuntary errors; pardon our more heinous sins; and concur with all our faithful endeavors in strengthening our souls, and in correcting every thing amiss in us. Thus may we be thoroughly purged from all bad habits and passions; and acquire a steady and invincible resolution in the ways of religion—and thus may we improve in wisdom and holiness, until thy ways become to us ways of pleasantness and all thy paths peace; and we become a nearer and brighter resemblance of thee, the author of all good.

And that we may be rendered the fit objects of thy mercy, afford us, gracious God, the communications of thy grace, and the aids of thy holy spirit. May we venerate and stand in awe of thee. May we be content and patient under all events, willing to be governed wholly by thy laws; and acquiescing with the most entire submission, in all the dispensations of thy providence.

May our spirits be reduced into their proper frame and order. May they be modest, calm, tractable, and open to instruction. May we

maintain a constant intercourse with thee. May we, according to our abilities, steadily pursue all useful and important knowledge. Grant us, we beseech thee, that knowledge which is from above, which is peaceable and full of good fruits that purifieth the heart and worketh by love. Deliver us from indolence, pride, prejudice, and from whatever would darken our minds, and disaffect them to true wisdom. May our improvement in knowledge be delightful to our souls; and may the encreasing light of our minds, produce inward strength and dignity, and render our virtues more amiable and useful.

O thou, that hearest prayer, have mercy upon all whom we ought to remember in our addresses unto thee.—Be compassionate to all in affliction and sorrow, to those, who are in pain of body or of mind, and to those, who mourn the loss of friends, of health, or of liberty. Plead the cause of the persecuted, whom we would remember with a generous sympathy, whilst we ourselves are enjoying the invaluable blessings of liberty, and of public worship.

O grant, that one spirit of piety, purity, peace, benevolence, harmony, and happiness, may be diffused through all thy rational creation. May an amiable openness of heart, mutual confidence, and delight in the prosperity of others, increase the happiness, and alleviate the miseries of human life. May all men carefully avoid criminal artifice and fraud; and practice strict justice and fidelity in all their branches. O, let not prejudice, pride, or misguided zeal transport mankind to the violation of these holy and immutable obligations. May their appetites and pas-

sions be reduced to that calm, equitable, and candid temperature,—may gentleness and goodness so universally prevail, that the great ends of society may be best answered—and a capacity formed for the enjoyment of the more refined social pleasures of a future world, in their highest dignity and perfection.

Blessed be God, for the mercies of the past day! Be graciously pleased to send us a good night, of ease and refreshment to our wearied powers. Let nothing come near this family and habitation, which would hurt or alarm us. May the repose and rest of the night, fit us for the duties and events of the ensuing day. And may all our days be spent in thy fear, and to the honor and glory of thy holy name.

Now unto thee, the almighty Creator, and the continual preserver of all men, but especially of those who believe and obey the everlasting gospel of truth and peace, be ascribed, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, everlasting praise and glory,—and to thee be paid all obedience, gratitude and submission, the homage due to thee from all thy creatures, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

THURSDAY MORNING.

Great and glorious Lord our God! We would at this time draw near to worship thee, with that reverential and godly fear, which becomes us in so august a presence. We adore the condescension of thy nature, that thou wilt be pleased to

lend a gracious ear to the supplications and worship of us, who dwell in tabernacles of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, and who are crushed before the moth.

We adore, with the deepest humility, that great, all-seeing, and glorious God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being. From thy presence no swiftness can fly. To whatever distant regions we should wing our flight, we should still find ourselves within the encircling arms of thine universal providence. Not the most artful disguises of hypocrisy, nor the thickest veils of darkness, can secure us from the notice of that being, whose eye penetrates the inmost recesses of the human heart, and before whom the night shineth as the day.

Our minds are filled with the most solemn and sacred awe, when we reflect on that power, which no force can resist, and which is equal to the execution of every purpose. And as the whole creation rose at thy command, so is it owing to the continual exertion of thy divine power, that all the creatures continue to subsist.

We have the highest reason to rejoice in thy providence, and in the direction of the affairs of the children of man. The Lord reigneth! Let the earth rejoice! Though the mountains shake at his presence, yet will we not fear. God is our refuge and strength! under his wings will we trust.

Grant, O God, that by often and seriously reflecting on thy adorable nature and perfections, our minds may be impressed with such just and worthy apprehensions of thee, as shall engage our best affections—inspire us with true devotion

—animate us to run with patience the race that is set before us, in the glorious prospect, that when Christ, our life, shall appear, we also, will appear with him in glory. O Lead us humbly to acquiesce in all the appointments of thy providence and fill our souls with an ardent ambition to be perfect in all moral excellencies, as thou, our heavenly father, art perfect.

O may the consideration of that goodness and mercy, by which thou art always disposed to promote the perfection and happiness of our nature, and to make all favorable allowances for our many offences and defects, fill our hearts with the warmest affection for all our fellow-creatures.—May we love even our enemies, and do good to those, who may, even. ill requite our goodness.

Fill our minds heavenly father with the most raised conceptions of thy glorious majesty, and, under their impression, may we be humble in all our sentiments of ourselves. As our future and everlasting happiness is to consist in the enjoyment of thy favor, may we be wise to redeem all the time, we can, from the concerns of this life, and to adorn our souls with all those excellent graces, which may render us the objects of thy complacency, and give us a relish for the joys and felicities of thy heavenly kingdom.—That when we cease to dwell on earth, and to converse with men, we may dwell with God, and converse with angels, and the spirits of just men made perfect.

O father of mercies, we thank thee, that thou hast afforded us refreshment, ease, and security on our beds, and brought us to the light of this day, with renewed vigor of body and mind.—

May thy repeated mercies dispose us to love and serve thee with all our hearts, and cheerfully to perform the several duties of our allotted stations.

We ask all in the name of Jesus Christ, our exalted Redeemer. *Amen.*

THURSDAY EVENING.

O THOU most blessed, and glorious of all beings! Thou art a God of unrivalled majesty, of uncontrolable power, and of infinite goodness.—Under these characters of thy name we would at this time acknowledge, praise, and worship thee.

We are thine offspring, O God. As such, thou art pleased to own and to regard us. Thou hast kindly preserved us ever since we came into the world—supplied all our wants—healed our sicknesses—given us ease from acute and violent pains—maintained us in safety amidst the most threatening dangers—and been a very present help in every time of our need. We cannot reckon up all thy mercies. Great, O Lord God, is thy goodness! We acknowledge, thy favors have never been deserved by us, and yet have been bestowed. We have frequently forfeited them by ingratitude, and yet they are continued. O our indulgent father, what love, what gratitude, what duty do we owe to thy generous goodness, and loving kindness towards us!

But our spiritual privileges and blessings are still greater, and more important. We thank thee, O God, for our merciful Redeemer, and

for all the advantages we enjoy, as his disciples —for the knowledge of true religion, and the attainment of everlasting happiness. May we be sensible of our obligations, and duly affected by them. Help us, to love thee, the source of all good; and to manifest the affection and gratitude of our hearts, by the most conscientious and constant obedience to thy will.

May the sense of duty in our minds be so deep and strong, as to lead us cheerfully to devote ourselves to thee, the blessed author of our being. Thus may we answer the end, for which we were made; and obtain the noblest happiness, whereof we are capable.

Forgive, O Lord, we beseech thee, all our sins—all our vain thoughts—prophane or idle words—and every sinful action of our lives.—May true religion be our constant study, practice, and delight.

Preserve us, good God, from pride, from covetousness, from narrowness of soul, and from indolence, falsehood, and hypocrisy. O may we walk before thee in the beauties of holiness, so as to be accepted of thee here; and may we persevere therein to the end of life, so as to obtain the end of our faith, and hope, even the salvation of our immortal souls in heaven.

Remember in mercy all for whom we ought to pray, or who desire an interest in our prayers. Give them, we entreat thee, all that is truly good for them, and preserve them from every real evil. Heal the sick. Sanctify their afflictions, and prepare them for a happy issue.

May the aged be supported under the decline of nature. Help them to be amiable examples

of piety—to glorify God—do credit to religion —and to encourage their successors, to choose God and religion, for their chief portion. May their last days, be their best days. And, when laid aside from active services, may they still glorify God, and benefit the world, by their eminence in passive virtues, and suffering piety.—May they be patterns of cheerful resignation, humble patience, and of amiable contentment and thankfulness. May they shew forth in their behaviour the peculiar power and consolations of religion, even in the most trying and awful season. And when flesh and heart shall fail, be thou, O God, the strength of their hearts, and their portion forever.

Secure our youth, most gracious God, from the snares and dangers of their age, and make them ornaments to this republic, men doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly with God. May the divine authority have its proper sway in their minds. May their hearts and ways be right with thee; and may the spirit of piety keep their souls. Thus may they become the joy of their parents, the delight of their pious friends, the admiration and hope of the rising generation, the examples and supports of real religion and virtue, the means of bringing glory to God, and eminent usefulness to their fellow-men.

Blessed be God for the mercies of the past day! May the guardian angel of thy presence defend us from all the dangers of the ensuing night. May we arise in the morning with thankful hearts, disposed and fitted for the events and duties of the ensuing day.

By continued improvement in goodness, and in all the habits of Christian obedience, may we be prepared for a comfortable exit out of this life, and finally, for that kingdom of glory and blessedness, designed, in the eternal purpose of God, for all the virtuous, from the foundation of the world.

O may we be at last admitted to that blessed state, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

FRIDAY MORNING.

A Paraphrase on the Lord's Prayer.

O Our father who art in heaven:

We would at this time, in a particular manner, address ourselves unto thee, our heavenly father, in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ, thy beloved Son, and our blessed Saviour and Redeemer, according to the model which he has left us upon record, and which he recommended to the imitation of his disciples.—According to his amiable directions, we would not only ask of thee the benefits we want for ourselves, but would also present unto thee the circumstances and necessities of all our fellow-creatures, who are all the children of thy family equally with ourselves. O may we all live in a manner worthy of the relation we stand in to thee, Our father, who art in heaven.

May we not sin against thee, for we are ac-

counted thine. We would above all things fear thy displeasure, who art so good, so tender a father. Help us, O God, to love thee, to fear thee, and to obey thy commands, as dutiful children ought to do—to put our whole trust in thee—and, in the way of duty, to depend entirely upon thine infinite power, wisdom, and goodness. May we cheerfully rest upon thy gracious promise, to bless, assist, provide for, and take all proper care of us. We desire to leave ourselves, and all our interests and friends, in thy kind hands, to choose for us, and to appoint what will be best. We would accept of all thy favors, with a becoming gratitude: we would bear with patience and resignation, all thy fatherly corrections.—And we do now implore thine assistance, that we may be enabled to serve thee with comfort and pleasure all our days, and at last, inherit all those promises, which thou hast made to thine obedient children.

Hallowed be thy name.

We ascribe unto thee all possible perfections! Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor, and power; for thou hast created all things! All thy works praise thee! O fill our hearts with a religious zeal for thy glory. May we always pay a proper regard and reverence to thy name—thy day—thine house—and thine holy ordinances.

Thy kingdom come.

Enlarge that kingdom, O God, and deliver the world from the dominion and tyranny of sin. May all the kingdoms of the earth become the kingdoms of Christ. May the gospel of the Redeemer spread over the whole earth, and be ac-

knowledged—understood—believed—and obeyed universally.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is done in heaven.

Give us true knowledge of our duty, and hearts readily disposed to close in with thy will, whenever it shall be made known to us, and to perform it with pleasure. May we resemble the blessed inhabitants above, by worshipping thee with holy zeal and devout affection. And grant, O father, that all professing Christians may cordially approve of thy divine government, be faithful in their duty, and satisfied with all thy disposals. And may they receive all that assistance from thee, which can conduce to these important ends.

Give us this day our daily bread.

We humbly look up unto thee, who bestowest upon us the necessaries, conveniencies, and useful accommodations for day and night. May we feel the sense, not only of bodily wants, but much more, of those of our souls. May our comforts be renewed, as our daily wants return — May we receive thy favors with grateful hearts, impart to those in necessity a share of that abundance thou art pleased to bestow upon us, and make use of the rest to our best advantage, in order that both our bodies and our minds may be fitted for the duties we owe to God—our fellow-creatures—and ourselves.

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us

Forgive us those sins, O heavenly father, which would separate us from thee. We stand in need of daily pardon for our daily sins. Be-

stow upon us, and upon all Christians, a forgiving temper, that we may fulfil the condition of our pardon. Thou art good and merciful in forgiving us: Grant that we may be so to others, remembering our own infirmities, and living in the same charitable disposition, in which we hope and desire to die. Teach us to love our enemies and to do good to them who despitefully treat us, following the example of our Lord, when he said: Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Thou, O father, knowest our infirmities. Suffer us not to be tempted above our strength; and shouldst thou give us the thorn in the flesh to buffet us, least we should be exalted above measure, O let thy grace be sufficient for us, and thy strength made perfect in our weakness. O leave us not to the malice of our spiritual enemies. Assist us in all our conflicts, that we may be enabled to maintain our integrity to the last. O leave us not to ourselves, lest our deceitful hearts should lead us into a snare. Keep us out of the way of temptation, and under the protection of thy good spirit, that so we may be more than conquerors, through Christ, who hath loved us. There is nothing, O Lord, that could be more dreadful to our souls, than the hidings of thy countenance, or the taking away of thy holy spirit from us; for whom have we in heaven, but thee, and there is none on this earth whom we desire besides thee; when our heart and our strength faileth us, then thou art the strength of our hearts and our portion forever.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever.

The whole creation is thine, and is under thy wise and good government! Thine is the power! Thou canst do whatever we pray for, canst cause thy will to be done on earth, as it is done in heaven, and canst incline us all to submit to it. Thou canst give us all things necessary, both for soul and body. Thou alone canst forgive us all our sins, and also dispose us to forgive one another. Thou canst secure us in the day of temptation, and deliver us from from all the evils of sin or suffering. Thou canst supply every want, perfect us in every state, and make us happy forever. To thee then, O our father, in faith, hope, and humble confidence, we ascribe the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. *Amen.*

FRIDAY EVENING.

O THOU greatest and best of beings! Thou art God, and there is none beside thee! There is none can stay thy hand, or say unto thee: why doest thou thus? The heavens, and the earth, and the seas, with all their numerous tenants, are under thy sovereign power and control. Day, unto day, uttereth speech of thee, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. With the greatest humility and reverence would we approach the throne of thy majesty and glory. We acknowledge ourselves unworthy of this invaluable privilege; but, Lord, we would appear be-

fore thee, according to thy condescending invitation to the children of men. When thou sayest, seek ye my face, we would answer—yea, Lord, thy face will we seek; trusting that no one ever sought thee in vain.

We, who are poor, mortal, sinful creatures, would confess and lament our many transgressions of thy holy laws. We beg earnestly for the pardon of all our sins. Assist, us, O Lord, to repent of all our offences, and to reform every thing, in our past conduct, displeasing in thy sight, or inconsistent with our Christian profession, privileges and hopes.

Grant us wisdom from above, that we may never more offend so good a God, so kind a friend. May we keep a good conscience, hold fast our integrity, and persevere in the path of our duty to the end of our days; that, when Jesus Christ, our Lord and life shall appear, we also may appear with him in glory.

May all mankind have their understandings and their hearts united in the acknowledgment, adoration, and humble service of thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

Put an end, O blessed God, to the triumphs of tyranny and violence throughout the earth, to the destructive schemes of turbulent and ungodly princes, to the effusions of human blood, and to the calamities of war. Let integrity—virtue—justice—liberty—happiness—and pure religion before God, even the father, universally prevail. Remove the prejudices of thine ancient people the Jews, that they may again be restored to thy favor.

O God of truth and order, we pray for thy re-

formed churches, that they may be brought nearer to the truth as it is in Jesus. O rectify every thing which is amiss, in doctrine, discipline, worship, and practice, according to the standard of thy holy and infallible word.

We pray for all useful communities of men — Be pleased to favor all societies, formed for good and honorable purposes, with thy special protection: and crown them with prosperity and success in every good design.

We would earnestly implore thy peculiar blessings upon this our native country. O, restrain that profaneness—that disregard to thy providence, and to the offices of religion—that selfishness, pride and discord—that inconsideration and levity—that unbounded vanity, luxury, and sensuality, which prevail in the midst of us, and which are the disgrace, and tend to the utter ruin of all society. O pour out in the midst of us the spirit of wisdom and piety, of purity and peace, of harmony, morality and justice. May there be a general spirit of humble repentance, and reformation of all our national vices—a spirit of fervent prayer and supplication for thy mercy.—And, O thou great King and Governor among the nations, avert from us we entreat thee, pestilence and famine, earthquakes, wars, and all thy other desolating judgments. Let not our iniquities terminate in our utter destruction.

Grant, O Lord, that all the inhabitants of these lands may have their hearts united in the fear of thy holy name, in a joint pursuit of one common interest and in brotherly love and christian charity one towards another. Do thou delight to dwell among us, and to do us good. And O

vouchsafe that our liberties, civil and sacred, may, under the auspicious care of thy over-ruling providence, be transmitted down secure, and in their utmost perfection, to the latest generations.

May the constituted authorities of these United States ever discountenance all tyranny and persecution, and be the steady supporters of civil and religious liberty. May all our inferior magistrates dispense justice, encourage piety, set a good example, and be a terror to evil doers.

Bless the ministers of the everlasting gospel, of every denomination, in their important work. May their success abundantly answer their pious wishes, prayers and labors.

Bless all our dear connections and friends with all suitable good things, both for time and eternity.

Accept, gracious God, our grateful acknowledgements for all the mercies of the past day.—Kindly preserve this habitation and family from the dangers, which may surround us this night. Refresh and strengthen us with comfortable rest and sleep, and restore us to the morning light, in health and safety.

We would now commit ourselves, and every thing belonging to us, to the care of thy kind providence, during our stay in this world: and hope for bliss and happiness in the next, from thy mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour; through whom we ascribe unto thee all praise, and honor, and glory, world without end, *Amen*.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O MOST blessed, and most glorious Lord God! Infinite in goodness, and in mercy! We thy creatures, whom thou hast made and whom thou hast to this moment preserved, do now present ourselves before thee, to offer up the morning sacrifice of our unfeigned thanksgiving and praise. Thy mercies are renewed to us every morning. Thy goodness followeth us all the day long.—Thou visitest us in the night season—Yea, every moment of our lives is a new instance of thy mercy.

By thy goodness it is, that we have slept this night secure, and that we are now raised up in health and safety. Thou art the God of our health; and our almighty deliverer from evil.—As long as we live will we praise thee, O Lord; for it is a pleasant thing to give thanks, and praise is comely. O give us hearts always tuned to thy praise; for this is our happiness, as well as our duty. Teach us, O Lord, to set a due value on our own immortal souls, and to remember that although we were to gain the whole world and loose our souls, we would be poor indeed. Imprint upon our minds, heavenly father, such a deep sense of our numberless obligations to thee that we may, above all things, dread to provoke thee to withdraw thy favors from us. Let not thy bounty lead us to a criminal love of this world—of the things, or persons in it. Let neither covetousness, ambition, pride or vanity, contempt of others or a fond conceit of ourselves, be the effects of thy loving kindness

to us. Endue us, O Lord, with meek, humble, contented minds Let our spirits be gentle and resigned--our tempers quiet and peaceable—and our behaviour, such as becomes creatures so unworthy, indigent, and frail as we are. O let the consideration of our many defects make us lowly in our own eyes—that thus we may find rest to our souls, and may be filled with that grace, which thou hast promised to the humble.

Prepare and fit us, O God, for every condition, and for every change; but especially, for our last and greatest change. Strengthen our faith in the time of sickness and trial Forsake us not, when our flesh fainteth, and when our heart faileth, but be thou our strength and portion in every time of need; yea, Lord, to whom should we go, but to thee, for thou hast the keys of life and death Let thy merciful ears be then, in a peculiar manner, open to our prayers. Suffer us not, through pain of body, or weakness of mind, at our last period, to let go our trust and confidence in thee; being assured, by thy holy and comfortable word, that he that endureth to the last, shall receive thy crown of righteousness in the eternal word. O Lord, leave us not to ourselves in that hour of nature's extremity; but do thou cheer our spirits with the well grounded hope of thy favor and love to our souls And may we, in the great day of judgment, hear the blessed sentence pronounced to every one of us, Well done, good and faithful servants: Enter ye into the joy of your Lord.

Be with us, O Lord, this day, in our going out, and in our coming in. Preserve us from the dangers of evil company, customs and examples;

and especially from those temptations, which are most apt to ensnare and betray us.

Let thy blessing accompany our lawful pursuits and employments. Grant us such a measure of health, and of all other temporal blessings, as thou, in thine infinite wisdom and goodness, seest to be best for us. Keep off from us every evil, which would endanger our christian profession, or destroy our peace of mind.

We beseech thee, O God, to extend thy pity and compassion to the whole race of mankind. Let the bright beams of thy gospel shine unto all the corners of the earth. May those, who now sit in darkness, come to the knowledge and practice of thy laws, and may their souls be saved in the great day of the Lord Jesus.

Be merciful to our country. Pardon our crying sins, and avert from us the judgments of thy wrath we justly deserve. Put a stop to the sheding of blood in our land, by private combat, under false notions of honor, but let thy honor prevail, supremely, in the hearts of our citizens. Check, O Lord, that spirit of infidelity among us, which would claim the right to destroy the body, in which it is encased, and over which thou alone, the Creator of the universe, has sovereign control. Prevent the spreading of all prophaneness, irreligion, and impiety—to all our unhappy divisions and animosities, and let truth and righteousness flourish among us. Direct the councils of our country—prosper the government of these states. Make it the instrument in thy hands, of great good to our inhabitants.

Inspire the ministers of the everlasting gos-

pel with a truly christian spirit. Make them zealous and diligent to promote it in all under their charge.

Bless our magistrates, and all in authority over us. May they all study to serve thee, and to discharge the duties of their several stations, always remembering the great account, which they must one day give up to thee, the great Governor of the universe, and the Judge of all men.

Be merciful, O God, to all that are under any affliction or distress (especially to those who desire to be remembered in our prayers)—who labor under poverty or persecution—under bodily pains and diseases—or under temptations or trouble of mind. O merciful father, support and comfort them. Lay no more upon them than thou wilt enable them to bear. Reconcile them to all thy dispensations. Sanctify their troubles. Give them every relief they want. Prepare them for thy whole will concerning them. Suit thyself in a way of mercy to their several cases and necessities; and, in thine own due time, give them a happy deliverance, either in this, or in a better world.

Pour down abundant blessings, both for soul and body, upon all our dear relations and friends. Unite our hearts in the mutual love of each other. Vouchsafe, O our God, unto us, and to all others who pray for us, or who desire us to pray for them, whatever is good and needful. Keep us from the evils we deserve or fear. Above all things, leave us not to ourselves, to the power of evil habits or temptations to sin. O

save and deliver us, for thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

SATURDAY EVENING.

O ETERNAL Being! Father of all mercies! God blessed for evermore! We, thine unworthy servants would adore thy glorious majesty, and would acknowledge, that our dependance is entirely upon thee, for all we enjoy, or hope for, in this world, or in that to come.

Thou hast shewn thyself a most kind and indulgent father to us; but we have been undutiful and ungrateful children. The favors and blessings we daily receive from thine all-bounteous hand are innumerable.—Yet, O Lord, many things have we done contrary to our best and greatest interest.

We are sensible, that the greatest concernments of this world are as nothing, when compared to eternity. And yet; how apt are we to grow careless and remiss in the great and important work of our salvation, and to suffer our affections to be carried away after the things of this life! But thou art infinite in mercy, and willest not the death of sinners; but rather that they repent and live.

Remember thou, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy tender mercies Pardon all our offences, of which we desire sincerely to repent. O give us grace, seriously to consider and amend our ways, which have been evil. May we see, that it is our indispensable duty to forsake every evil

course for the future. And do thou assist us to persevere in the path of duty, to the end of our days.

Possess our minds with just and lively apprehensions, of the infinite disproportion there is between this world and the next, that we may make a right use of all those gracious opportunities which thou art pleased to give us, of working out our salvation, and of securing an inheritance in that kingdom, which is to last forever.

Let no temptations or allurements divert us from securing the interests of our precious souls. Whatever else we leave undone, let the care of our salvation employ our first and chiefest thoughts, and be the grand business, concern, and employment of our whole lives.

Suffer not, O Lord, our worldly affairs and interests so to engage our attention, as to draw off our affections from heavenly objects. Help us to govern ourselves by the rules of virtue, wisdom, justice, prudence, temperance, and moderation; and above all according to the dictates of that blessed gospel by which life and immortality have been brought to light. May we maintain an entire trust and dependance on thy fatherly care and good providence. And, having always before our eyes that great account, which we must one day give at thy tribunal, may we never dare to do any thing, which would dishonor thy name, or our christian profession. May we never be so foolish, as to purchase any happiness in this world at the expense of thy favor; but, making thy law the rule of all our actions, may we approve ourselves unto

thee, as becometh thy dutiful children and obedient servants. May we be zealous and devout in thy service—kind and charitable to all our brethren—meek and patient—humble and inoffensive—and as far as in us lies, useful and beneficial to the world. Having thus, in our imperfect measure, glorified thee upon earth, may we, at our departure hence, enter into the joy of our Lord, and be forever glorified in thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Be gracious, O God, to the whole race of mankind. Pity the deplorable state of those, who know not God, and who have never heard of thy gospel. Reform the wicked and impenitent; and may all that name the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all that are under thine afflicting hand, especially of those, for whom we are peculiarly concerned. If it be thy will, restore them to health and soundness again, that they may praise thee in the land of the living. If thou hast otherwise determined, O support and comfort them; and prepare them and us for thy whole will concerning them.

Relieve and comfort those, who suffer for the testimony of a good conscience, or who labor under the torments of a wounded spirit. Let the sorrowful sighings of the afflicted come before thee, and deliver them, in thy good time, out of all their troubles.

May every one of our relations and friends be of the number of those, whom thou lovest, and in whom thou delightest. Deliver them from the evils and temptations of this world, and grant

them whatever is needful both for soul and body.

We desire to add our unfeigned praises and thanksgivings for all thy blessings to us, temporal and spiritual. We thank thee, for the mercies of the past day—for preserving us in health and safety—and for delivering us from the many evils we have been in danger of, and which we have most justly deserved. Help us, good God, to improve all thy mercies. Continue to us, merciful Father, thy gracious favor and protection. Be pleased to take care of us, and of all that belongeth to us, this night. Defend us from all evils and dangers—and, after comfortable refreshment by rest and sleep, raise us up in health and safety, with hearts full of love to thee, and zeal for thy service. May our minds be suitably prepared and disposed for the work and worship of thy own day. And, in all our duties and services, may we approve ourselves thy faithful servants here, that we may at length, be admitted to thy glorious presence above, where we shall praise thee to all eternity.

Now may we grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom be glory throughout all generations.—*Amen.*

WEEK IV.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O LORD our God! We adore the perfections of thy nature, and acknowledge thine undeserved goodness to us. We bless thee for every instance of it through our whole life: and, at this time particularly, for the watchful care of thy kind providence, by which we have been secured from the dangers of the past night, and are comfortably brought to this sacred morning.

We here, O Lord our God, acknowledge ourselves thy creatures, thy servants, and the disciples of thy Son; and, as such obliged by all the strictest ties of duty, gratitude, and interest, sincerely to search out and perform thy will, and never wilfully to offend against thy holy laws.

With shame and grief we reflect upon the ill returns we have made to all thy grace and mercy, and to all the love and tender compassion of thy beloved Son, our blessed Saviour. We admire thy patience, and long suffering goodness towards such unworthy creatures as we are.—Many, O Lord, have been our offences, in thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty. Many are still our imperfections. But, O merciful Father, we beseech thee, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, to pardon us, now returning to thee, with the full purpose of regarding more strictly the obligations of gratitude and obedience which we are under, and of living

for the time to come, more like thy servants, and like Christians. Surely, Lord, there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.—Surely, the atoning blood of our crucified Redeemer, sufficeth to create a hope, that maketh not ashamed; and that precious blood speaketh better things, than the blood of Abel. Will the Lord be graciously pleased henceforth to lead us by thy council and finally to receive us to glory!

We entreat thee, O Father, to concur with us, by thy merciful providence and thy good spirit, that, in the future conduct of our lives, we may better answer the ends of our religion, and adorn the gospel, which we profess to believe. Let the experience of thy repeated mercies inflame us with a resolution of making suitable returns to them. Let the belief of future glories raise our minds above the sordid views of this world.—Let the consideration of thy wisdom and goodness teach us, heartily and humbly to submit ourselves to all the dispensations of thy providence towards us and ours, assured, that thou knowest what is best, infinitely better than we possibly can ourselves.

Let the example of our blessed Saviour, ever placed before our eyes, direct our steps in every station of life, and in every instance of duty.—Particularly, O Lord, assist us this day, in our attendance upon public worship. May we hear thy word read and preached, to our great improvement and comfort. May we join in the prayers put up to thee, with sincere and devout minds. May we sing thy praises, with delight and gratitude. May our religious exercises this

day do us good as they do the upright in heart. May a day in thy courts, O Lord, be more delightful to us, than a thousand elsewhere. May it be our heart's desire, rather to be door-keepers in the courts of the Lord, than to dwell in the tants of wickedness. Grant, O Lord, that the teachings of thy word, this day, may tend to build up and strengthen our faith, and add much to our comfort in this life and that which is to come.—O that we may, above all things, desire one thing of the Lord, and seek thereafter: that we may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. And, O Lord, grant that we may love the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth. Increase our faith in Jesus Christ, in the precious promises of his gospel, and in the glorious prospects therein set before us Hence, may we grow more active in our obedience, and more diligent in our endeavors to know, and to do thy will.—May we submit to all thy dispensations and say, as our blessed Master did—Not our will, but thine be done

O let this day's work pass well in our last account! And may our sabbaths and means of grace train up our souls for the blissful enjoyments and employments of a happy eternity in thy glorious kingdom above which thou hast prepared for all, who love God and Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth, and who faithfully persevere in duty to the end of life.

And now, O Lord, what wait we for? Let thy grace and blessing, thy love and fellowship, thy direction and assistance, be with us this day,

and with all thy faithful ministers, and devout worshippers—even with all, for whom we ought to beg thy mercy in our prayers—Be with them, and with us, for time and for eternity. *Amen.*

SUNDAY EVENING.

O God, our great creator, preserver and benefactor! We approach thee with the greatest reverence and humility, to pay the last acknowledgments of this day to thee, before our eyes are closed with sleep.

We praise and magnify thy name, for all thy mercies; for adding another day to our lives; for the tender care and guidance of thy merciful providence, by which we are defended from all the evils, both natural and moral, with which this imperfect state so much abounds. Whatever good or happiness we enjoy, to thee we give the praise of it, ascribing it to thy favor. Our wilful imperfections and failings, our transgressions and neglects, in any instance of thy law and our duty, we truly repent of. We take shame to ourselves and seek the pardon of them, from thy fatherly mercy and goodness alone.

O forgive us, we beseech thee, upon the terms of thy Son's gospel; and in a particular manner, whatsoever thou hast seen amiss in any part of our conduct, through the past day,—in our late devotions —in our public worship,—and in our intermediate behaviour and conversation

We have, this day, been joining our fellow Christians in the solemn acts of religious wor-

ship. We would bless and praise thy name, for the opportunity we have had, once more, to attend upon the ordinances of thine appointment. Our souls would magnify the Lord, and our spirits would rejoice in God, who kindly bestows so many opportunities and advantages for our progress in the divine life, and our preparation for that eternal sabbath, whose brightness knows no night. O let it not add to our condemnation, that light is come into the world, and that we have chosen darkness, rather than light. May we not render ourselves obnoxious to thee, O God, for the misimprovement of our time, talents and privileges; remembering that now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation; and that the night cometh, when no man can work. O then, may the all important enquiry sink deep into our minds: *men and brethren, what shall we do to be saved?*

Blessed be God, for Jesus Christ, the glorious messenger of peace and pardon! O that the noble truths of the gospel, the invitations, counsels, and examples of thy word, may effectually lead us all into the paths of holiness and virtue, and conduct us to the society of the blessed spirits above, those happy inhabitants, whose hearts overflow with joy, and who sing praises for evermore.

To this end, make us rich in knowledge of the best things, and steady in all Christian duties, through all the days of our lives. Assist us, to banish all those worldly cares from our thoughts, which would molest our peace, or hinder the ascent of our hearts to God, whenever we engage in religious duties. And O suffer

not the false allurements of sin and the world again to deceive us, and to steal away our hearts, after we have given up ourselves to thee, and resolved to be thine. Fortify us against the temptations, most apt to draw us aside. May we hate and avoid every appearance of evil, and keep, as much as possible, out of the way of temptation. May we hate the congregation of evil doers and not sit with the wicked: that we may not endanger the interests of our precious souls, more valuable than all the riches of the world; yea Lord teach us to keep our hearts with all diligence, knowing that out them are the issues of life, and death. And help us to fix our affections more upon heavenly objects, than on the unsatisfying joys which this world affords. For eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor hath it entered in the heart of man to conceive the glory, and richess and honor and happiness which the Lord has in store for them that love and fear him. May we be now, then, laying up treasures in heaven, before the evil days come, in which we shall say, we have no pleasure in them. And will the Lord be pleased to guide us by thy counsel and the influence of the holy spirit, and finally to receive us to glory!

We beseech thee, O Lord to be merciful to the whole world. Extend the knowledge of thy gospel to the remotest corners of the earth.—Lead all who name the name of Christ, into the paths of truth righteousness, and peace. Put an end to spiritual tyranny and oppression.—Give an open check to all that pride and ambition, which disturb the world. Quiet the turbu-

lent spirits, and compose the wicked and brutal animosties, of all mankind.

Look down, with much mercy, upon this our native country. Cure our evil tempers. and conquer our unchristian and uncharitable dispositions. Grant, that mutual love and charity may abound, amidst our greatest differences. Compassionate all the afflicted, whatsoever their afflictions may be, whether uneasiness of mind, or pain of body, want, sorrow, persecution, or oppression. Give them all the supports and assistances suitable to ther distresses, and, in thy good time, a happy issue out of all their calamities.

Bless all, in whom we are nearly concerned, with every truly good for them. Shower down thy mercies on our friends and benefactors, granting them all happiness here, and hereafter. Forgive our enemies, if such there be; and shew thy mercy unto them.

Take us, we beseech thee, and all ours, under thine almighty protection, through this night. Defend us, if it be thy holy will, from the designs of evil men, and from every thing terrible and hurtful.

Pardon all our sins. Condescend to accept of our poor services, our prayers, our praises, and dedications. Lead us all, in the paths of thy good providence to everlasting life and happiness, through thy fatherly goodness and thy love to mankind, declared by thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom be praise and glory and honor and dominion, world without end.—*Amen.*

MONDAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY God! Thou art the great creator and preserver of all things! Thou didst speak the world into being. Thy providence supporteth all the works of thine hands. Thou delightest in the happiness of thy creatures.

Thou art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, except with abhorrence and destestation — But thou condescendest to look down upon the pious soul, with approbation and love.

O how shall we then approch thy awful majesty! We are sensible, that in many instances, we have disobeyed thy holy laws, and have acted contrary to the obligations, which thy daily goodness lays upon us. We would acknowledge, with great humility and penitence, that, in many instances, we have fallen short of our duty, and have been backward and indisposed to spiritual exercises.

Do thou, O God, raise and quicken us; and may good affections be enlarged and stenghtened in our souls. Let thy goodness lead us to repentance, and form our minds to a virtuous, heavenly temper, and to a fixed abhorrence of all sin. Thou art a God merciful and gracious, O pardon all our past offences, and lay not our sins to our charge. May we daily watch over our own hearts—our words—and our actions. Let thy divine aids assist our own endeavors, that we may encrease in the knowledge of God, and of our duty, and attain more pure and worthy conceptions of thy nature and providence.— Under a due sense of thy almighty power, we

would avoid thy displeasure, as the worst of evils. Under a sense of thy perfect goodness, we rejoice, that we are under thy wise and gracious government. We desire to yield a cheerful obedience to thy commands, and always to rest satisfied with thy appointments.

Teach us, O God, the knowledge of ourselves; and help us, under all the trials and changes of this world, to maintain a constant habit of self-government. May we be humble, temperate, and charitable, in all conditions of life. In every trial and affliction enable us to be patient, and entirely resigned to all thy providential dispensations; convinced, that they are always wisely and kindly intended for our good. Save us, good God, from a murmuring, peevish, discontented spirit—from envy, ambition, revenge, and all uncharitableness—from the snares of the wicked—and from the fatal influence of evil examples.

With humble submission to thy will, we beseech thee to continue to us the use of our understanding and reason, without which, every thing that might otherwise be a comfort to us, would be in vain. And may our life and health be still precious in thy sight, and be devoted to thyself, and to thy service.

From the various calamities of our fellow creatures, which we see every where around us, may we learn to pity and pray for those who are in sorrow and distress. O thou father of mercies, support and comfort them, as their various cases may require. Comfort weak dejected spirits. Stenghten the feeble mind, against all vain fears and terrors. May they again

serve thee with a cheerful thankful heart. Pity the poor. Heal the sick. And do good to all, as their various necessities do require.

We thank thee, O God, for all thy goodness to us and ours, throughout our past lives; and for all thy generous provission for ease, satisfaction, and comfortable subsistence in this world. But above all, we thank thee, for the valuable means of grace and spiritual improvement, which we enjoy to forward our preparation for heaven and and endless happiness.

We pray thee, O God, to overlook our sins and infirmities. Say to the fearful in heart; I am thy God. When our father and mother forsake us, then Lord, do thou take us up. Be with us through this day. Keep us from evils of every kind, if it be thy holy will. And grant that when we have come to the finishing period of this life, we may have hope in our death; and, at last, arise to glory, through Jesus christ our Lord, who is the resurrection and the life; and to whom, and thee, O our Father, who art in heaven, and the holy spirit, be ascribed all glory and praise, now and forever. *Amen.*

MONDAY EVENING.

Almighty and merciful, glorious and holy Lord God! Thou art exalted above the praises of angels, and art the best, as well as the greatest, of all beings.

With the profoundest reverence would we approach thy presence, and worship thee, the

Lord our maker, our constant preserver, and bountiful benefactor. We earnestly implore all needfull aids and assistances from thee, to the acceptable performance of this, and every other religious duty.

Thou hast given us the delightful prospect of perfection in a future state, as a motive to the practice of piety and virtue in this world. May we be ever sensible, that obedience to thy commands will be the best to secure our peace here, and our happiness hereafter—to gain us the approbation of our own minds—and an interest in thy favor. May we be fully convinced, that, with these, we can never be miserable; and that, without them, it is impossible we should ever be happy.

We would humble ourselves before thee, under a deep and penitent sense of our great unworthiness; and would now earnestly implore the pardon of all our sins, for thy mercy and goodness' sake, O Lord. Graciously give ear to our supplications, and speak peace to our souls. O give us hope in believing, that thou, Lord, will not leave, nor forsake us, that, should the world forsake us, or even our friends or relatives leave us destitute, thou will be our strenght and sufficient portion. Give us repentance unto life; and assist our endeavours to amend what has thus far been offensive in thy sight in our past conduct.

O Lord encrease our faith, so as to influence all our actions And may the love of Christ constrain us to follow his examples and precepts.—Let thy fear be always before our eyes: and may we continually remember, that we are in thy

presence, and that thou seest and knowest every thought, word and action of our lives. Under this impression, may we think no evil, do no wrong, always speak the truth, and never dare to take thy holy name in vain, or to mention it, without the greatest reverence.

In all our daily concerns with our fellow-creatures, may we be exactly just and honest, not daring to defraud or deceive, in the least instance. May we be punctual to our promises, and faithful to every trust reposed in us. Thus may we have peace of conscience, and minds undisturbed with guilty fears. May we be sober and temperate, humble, patient, benevolent and charitable. May we govern our tempers and passions, our affections and appetites, by the rules of reason and religion. May we, with a ready cheerfulness, submit to all thy providential dispensations towards us and ours, resting satisfied, that infinite wisdom cannot err, and that infinite goodness will order all for the best.

Teach us, O our God, to redeem our time, and to improve the many advantages and blessings we are favored with. May we so number our days, as to apply our hearts to the truest wisdom. May we frequently look forward to the great and awful day, when we must all appear at the judgment seat of Christ, to give an account of all our thoughts, of all our words, and of all our deeds done in the body, whether they be good or evil. In all our actions, may we direct our views to a future state, in a joyful expectation of thy mercy unto eternal life. And when it shall please thee to summon us hence, we may not only be ready, but willing, to die; and then

may we have an entrance ministered unto us into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God for the mercies of another day, to the conclusion of which thou hast safely brought us! We humbly entreat thy protection through this night. Keep us from every kind of evil, if it be thy will. May our rest and sleep be quiet and refreshing. And may we rise in the morning with cheerful spirits, and grateful hearts, suitably disposed to our several duties, and to thy service—with kind and benevolent affections to our fellow creatures—and with humble trust and confidence in thine infinite power and goodness. All we beg in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

TUESDAY MORNING.

With the greatest reverence we appear before thee, O God, again this morning. Into thy presence we desire to come, with humility and repentance. To thee, our creator, we would also offer praise, for thou hast made us, and not we ourselves; and numberless mercies engage our love to thee.

Our bodies thou hast framed of the dust.—Thou also hast given us these souls—souls, which nothing but thyself can satisfy or fill.—Thou hast made us, that we might serve thee in holiness on earth, and live with thee in blessedness forever in heaven. O help us then, to devote ourselves to thy service, and to honor thee

with our bodies and spirits, which are thine.—Happy are they, O Lord, who always live as in thy sight, and whose piety and virtue unite their souls to thee! But how much more happy are they, who are now joining their songs of praise with angels, and the spirits of the just made perfect above.

We lament our feeble efforts to praise and glorify thee, and the backwardness of our hearts to the love and service of thee, who art the best of all beings, and to whom we are indebted for innumerable blessings, both temporal and spiritual. O let thy grace sanctify and pardon us, and let thy boundless goodness still supply us with all things necessary, both for life and godliness. Let us not dare to sin against God, and in the face of heaven.

Thou delightest in compassion and in mercy. Pity, O Lord, and help us. Pardon all our sins—deliver us from every snare—from all perplexities and straits, which would endanger our virtue—cure our vain hearts—rectify our spirits—remove the burden, and prevent the bitterness of sin, by bringing us to repentance, and to reformation of heart and life; and by granting us a full and free pardon, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

As thou hast sustained us through the past night, keeping us from all its terrors, and renewing thy mercies to us this morning so, O God, be thou still mindful of us, and merciful to us, by keeping us safe, and teaching us how to conduct ourselves, through this day. Let thine eye overawe our spirits—thy fear over-rule our hearts—thy wisdom direct our choice—and thy all-pow-

erful providence prosper our undertakings. And since thou art never absent from us, may we always act and behave as in thy presence, every where seek thy favor and approbation, and have the delight and happiness of finding it. Enable us first to seek the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof, in the hope that all other things will be added thereto.

Help us, O merciful father, to keep our hearts under religious discipline, to join our own endeavors to our devotions, and to cultivate purity of heart, the love of truth, justice, charity, and peace. May we be watchful over our own senses, and keep a strict guard against every temptation, especially against those, which are most apt to overcome us, and by which we have fallen before. Preserve us, good God, from relapsing into any sin, or into any undue temper and evil passion, from which we have been recovered. Help us to persevere in the path of duty, so as to obtain thine acceptance at last, and the salvation of our immortal souls. Hear us in our prayers O thou, our Father who art in heaven, and graciously accept of our humble services at this time, for Christ's sake. *Amen.*

TUESDAY EVENING.

O INCOMPREHENSIBLY great, and most glorious Lord our God! thou wert the same, before the beginning of time, and will be the same, when time shall be no more! Heaven is thy throne, and earth is thy footstool! All things are at thy

disposal! Thou art the searcher of hearts! Thou observest all actions! Thou providest for all our wants!

We would bow down before thee, this evening, with all humility, under an an awful sense of thy presence, and of our unfitness to approach thy glorious majesty.

We are conscious, O Lord, of our own demerit before thee. We know we have transgressed thy holy laws, and sadly deviated from the path of duty. Much more dost thou know it, who seest our very thoughts, and from whom nothing is hidden. How righteous wouldest thou still be, and able to justify thy own proceedings, shouldest thou strip us of all our mercies, and by a sad experience to know, what a foolish and unreasonable thing sin is!

But, through thy wonderful patience, we have still time allowed for repentance, and the gracious offers of pardon, upon the most reasonable terms, of return to thee and reformation life.—O help us to repent of all our sins, and to reform whatever has been amiss in our conduct!

May we clearly see the reasonableness of all thy commands, and feel the power of gospel motives to better obedience. May we cheerfully yield ourselves up to all thy pleasure, that we may be qualified for thine acceptance. By the word and spirit of thy Son, do thou create in us clean and upright hearts. Help us to abandon all past sins and follies, and to offer to thee the best our time and thoughts, the choicest of our affections, and the most faithful services of an active life.

Never let us suffer the things or persons of

this world to draw us away from thee, our God, and from our duty; nor to hinder our pursuit after the greater and better things, which our faith foresees, and which thou hast prepared for those, who love God.

O that the things of time may be as nothing with us, in comparison of eternity! May eternity be much in our heart, and ever in our eye. May faith and hope in things unseen, be the chief and governing principles of our lives: being assured that the things which are seen, are temporal and perishing, but that the things which are unseen, are eternal and substantial, so that, when the time comes of our departure into the world of spirits, we may be meet for the inheritance of the saints in light, and be received to everlasting life and happiness.

Continue thy favor to us; Good God, by giving us a night of comfortable repose; and may we all of us lie down in peace, sleep in safety, and rise in the morning, under the light of thy countenance, and be fitted for the duties of the ensuing day.

Bless all our friends and relations. Reward all our benefactors. Forgive our enemies. Pity the poor, and do good to all, as their necessities require. Give us thy peace, and fill us with hope and joy in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD our God! Thou art infinite in wisdom and understanding! Thou fillest the whole world with thy presence! All things are naked and open to thine all-seeing eye! Thou searchest the hearts and triest the reins of the children of men. Even the most secret of our sins are not concealed from thee! And thou wilt bring every work, and every thought, into judgment, whether it have been good or evil!

We would lament before thee, O Lord, that we have been unmindful of thine heart-searching eye, continually intent upon us; and that we have made so bold with thy glorious majesty, continually present with us. We confess, O God, that, for our guilt, thou mightest justly have cut short our lives, and appointed our portion with hypocrites. But, as thou hast spared us, so do thou humble us; & pardon all that hypocrisy and treacherous dealing, all that inconstancy and guilt, wherewith we stand chargeable at thy bar.

Help us, O Lord, to be ever watchful over our thoughts, our words, and our actions. Let our professions of religion, of love to God, and our fellow creatures, be very sincere, and without guile. May our words be well guarded, that we offend not with our tongues. May we dread a lie: and always speak the truth courageously, whatever it may cost us. May we never dare to break thy lawful commands, by taking thy holy name in vain, nor ever venture to mention it, without the greatest seriousness and reverence, knowing that thou hast said, the

Lord will not hold him guiltless, that taketh his name in vain. O let this dreadful threatning be ever present to our minds, that we may never transgress this thy holy and express commandment. And may we constantly remember that, in the day when we are called to a strict and awful account, by our words and by our works we shall be condemned or justified. O may we then be able to give up a joyful and honorable reckoning, and be owned at thy tribunal, as thy faithful and accepted servants!

May thy all piercing eye be to us, as our constant star to direct our course. May thy blessed favor be our continual study and, the enjoyment of it our continual delight. Help, good God, our endeavours to obtain thine approbation and acceptance. Whatever unknown errors, unpardoned sins, and unreformed guilt we see not, do thou make known unto us.—Search us, O God, and try our hearts, and discover to us our true state and condition; and if thou find any evil way in us, lead us in the way that is everlasting. Help us sincerely to repent of, and to amend, whatever has been thus far amiss, and grant us a gracious pardon, for thy goodness' sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assist us for the future, to walk in newness of life. We know, we feel, how unequal we are to the performance of our duty, in a proper manner, without thine assistance. O gracious God, leave us not to our own feeble attempts.—but guide us by thy counsel through the various changing scenes of our mortal career. Aid us by thy spirit, to keep thy commands, and to perform our duty so, as to obtain thine acceptance,

our own comfort here, and everlasting happiness hereafter. O cast us not off, we beseech thee! Abandon us not to ourselves. May we happily experience thy help, ever at hand, to succeed us in our heavenly course. May we grow daily more like to God, and more ripe for the harvest of eternal glory.

Bless this family, we beseech thee, O Lord, with every valuable blessing. With us, bless all our dear connections. Preserve them and us from vice and folly, and from diseases and dangers. Make us all wise and virtuous, that we may enjoy ease on earth, and glory in heaven.

Blessed be God for the mercies of the last night, and for the comforts of this morning.—Let the constancy of thy favours increase our gratitude, for the past, and encourage our hope and trust in thy providence and goodness, for the future.

Preserve us, good God, from the dangers, to which we may be exposed this day. Assist us in every part of our duty. Succeed us in our lawful undertakings. Keep us in thy faith, fear and love—and especially preserve our souls from all sin. Guide us through every remaining stage of life, and bring us safe at last to thine eternal rest and joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O THOU that hearest prayer, the almighty and everlasting God! To thee shall all flesh come! As a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pi-

tieth them that fear him! Thou knowest our frame; thou rememberest that we are but dust! Whilst the wisdom and holiness of thy nature leave no room for impenitent sinners to hope, that thou wilt hear them, thou art pleased to encourage such as are upright in heart, under all their failings and imperfections, to put their trust in thy mercy.

Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord, that we may have minds deeply impressed with a sense of these, and all other of thy perfections. In our whole behaviour, and more especially in our solemn addresses to the throne of thy heavenly grace, may we be so influenced thereby, as ever to glorify thy most holy name.

O let not this most blessed liberty, which thou hast given us, of coming into thy presence, and of calling upon thee as our father in heaven, be despised or neglected by us. May it not prove in vain to us, for want of that sincerity, and humility, of that faith and charity, of that devotion and of all those good dispositions, wherewith we should at all times bow ourselves before thee, who art the high and holy one, who inhabitest eternity.

Blot out all our offences, O most merciful father. Assist us graciously, and teach us, how to pray unto thee in an acceptable manner.—Grant, that we may never forget, to whom and for what we make our requests. May we always have a lively apprehension of thy presence, though invisible, and of the reality, excellence, and infinite importance of spiritual and eternal blessings. Placing our happiness in thee alone, may we not vainly seek it in other objects,

where it is not to be found; nor be grieved and disappointed, when outward objects do not afford us that satisfaction, which we ought not to expect from them. Thou, O Lord, can only satisfy the cravings of the immortal soul.

May we so pray, as to live better for our prayers May we walk so circumspectly at other times, as to be in a disposition of mind to pray always, with all prayer and supplication, watching thereunto with all perseverance — Whatsoever we do. Whether we eat or drink, may all be done to thy glory. May we be kept stedfast in our own duty, by the delight we take in it; and by the tranquility and establishment of heart we derive from it.

Thus may we go on, in the regular and uniform discharge of the duties we owe to God, and in the growing habits of charity to man—adorning the doctrine of our Lord and Saviour, and delighting ourselves with the beauties of holiness. Thus may we be prepared, by a life of faith and hope, for a state of enjoyment and happiness; and, at last, may we be translated to those blessed and glorious mansions, where thou hast laid up, for those that love thee, such things, as eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, such as cannot enter into the heart of man to conceive, or fully to apprehend. There we shall not only be sincere in our devotions but equal to the angels, according to our capacities, and with fervent everlasting praises, celebrate that goodness, which is infinite and eternal.

O thou, who art the inspirer of good thoughts, and of holy purposes, encourage, strengthen and increase them in us; that, after the refreshment

of quiet sleep this night, we may feel them lively and powerful upon our minds, at our awaking in the morning. May we then, with renewed joy, devote ourselves faithfully to thy service and our duty, so as to obtain our own satisfaction and comfort, and so as to secure thine acceptance at last.

Let the watchful eye of thy providence keep us, our habitation, and all our dear connections, in peace and safety, free from all the evils and dangers, which may be near. And may we awake in the morning, a family in health, to praise thee.

O that all our friends, and kindred, and all thy people every where, may partake of the same mercies we desire for ourselves. However we are separated one from another in this world, grant us a happy meeting, at last, in the realms of light, and love and joy, to bless and praise thee to all eternity. All we ask, in the name, and as the disciples of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

THURSDAY MORNING.

O Lord our God! We adore thee as the God of our lives, and the length of our days! Thy hand hath formed us at first! And thy goodness made us for everlasting happiness! How great, O Lord, is thy goodness! How immense are our obligations to it! Thy hand upholds us in life, and in the right state of our rational powers, that by the use of them, in the enjoyment of

health and bodily activity, we might cultivate the knowledge and love of thee, our heavenly father, might establish pious and virtuous habits, and might thus become qualified to live divinely blessed forever.

Adored be thine everlasting goodness, that even our folly, ingratitude, and waste of life, have not provoked thee to quit the design of our everlasting felicity! We rejoice in the fresh proofs of thy presence and providence, which every morning brings with it. We would, with pleasure, rise in sentiments of gratitude, wonder, and love to thee our God, who causest the returning light to visit the earth, and who givest us to behold it in safety and comfort. In the possession of how many blessings are we still continued! We bless thee for health, reason, friends, liberty, not only for the necessaries, but the conveniences and comforts of life—and for our peculiar advantages for becoming holy and useful in this world, and eminently blessed, to all eternity.

Every good thing we enjoy in this world, we owe to thy bounty. We thank thee, for the favorable circumstances in which we are placed, for improving in religion and virtue—for securing thine acceptance in this world, and a large portion of happiness in the world to come.

Thanks be to God, who, by the gospel of Christ, has given us a plain rule of life; who has shewn us, what is truly good, requiring us, to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God; and who is thus inviting us to possess the most solid satisfactions in this life, and the most complete felicity in the life to come.

Blessed be God, who encourages the repentance of his offending creatures, by assurances of full forgiveness by the death of his Son!—who animates our endeavors to obey his will, and to perfect our natures, by the promise of his powerful aids!—and who hath eased us of every care, but that of pleasing him, and doing our duty, by directing us to cast all our care upon him, and by promising that then all things shall work together for our good!

Eternal praises be to him, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light by his gospel! O how great are our obligations to thee, our heavenly father! All we have, or are, or yet hope for, is from thee! and thine we desire to be. To thee we would now present ourselves, a living sacrifice. May it be holy, and acceptable in thy sight!

Forgive us, gracious God, that we have no better answered our obligations, that we have no better improved our time and advantages, that we have so little studied thy will and thy glory, that we have been so careless in the performance of the duties of our various relations, that we have so little promoted the good of our fellow-creatures, and have been so negligent in the improvements we ought daily to make in virtuous habits, and a divine temper.

We would lose no more of a short life; but would now resolve to live, for God—for heaven—for immortality! Do thou, O most merciful father, establish our good purposes. What we know not, do thou teach us. Wherein we have done evil, we desire to offend no more. O that

all our ways may be so ordered by thee the Lord, that we may keep thy righteous statutes.

Knowing, that thou art ever present with us, and that thou seest our most secret thoughts, and our most concealed designs, as well as open behaviour, may we stand in awe, and sin not against that God, who observes us continually. who expecteth from us suitable returns of gratitude, and who is ready to reward them infinitely.

Blessed be God for the safety, and for the refreshing rest of the past night, and for the comfortable circumstances of our family this morning! Supply all our returning wants through this day. Keep us and all our's safe under thy gracious protection. May our whole behaviour this day be animated with a cheerful concern to praise and glorify God. May it be such, in every respect, as, at the close, will yield matter of pleasing reflections. All we ask, in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world, to whom be honor, dominion and praise, forever and ever. *Amen.*

THURSDAY EVENING.

GREAT and glorious God! the creator and preserver of the universe! Under thy direction, the sun continues to rise and shine by day, and the moon to rule by night By thy never ceasing powerful influences, the beauty, order, and usefulness of all thy works are maintained.

We, thine unworthy servants, would this evening present our thanksgivings unto thee, our

bountiful benefactor, for the numberless benefits we daily receive at thy hands. We bless thee, for the cares and the supplies of thy providence, which we have this day experienced—that we have been favored with all things necessary for life and godliness—and that we close this day, amidst so many blessings. Let such a sense of thy exceeding goodness to us be ever present to our minds, that we may not dare to provoke thy goodness, by our disobedience or ingratitude.—Help us to implore all the blessings of thy providence, and to employ them to the glory of thee, the bountiful dispenser of them all. May they turn to our own best advantage, both here and hereafter. May we always refer ourselves cheerfully to the wise dispensations of thy providence, entreating thee to appoint, whatever thou knowest to be best for us, and to teach us to be content with thine allotments, and to remember that the little the righteous have is better than the riches of the wicked. O keep us from every real evil. May we be always humble and watchful against temptations: and do thou watch over us, and keep us from falling, and guard us against the sins that do most easily beset us. Whatever be the idol we are prone to countenance or cherish, to thy dishonor and our own injury, O, help us to cast that idol from us. Make us well aware of the dangers which surround us—and whenever we are tempted to any sinful compliance, may this thought secure us—How can we do this wickedness, and sin against God?

Animated by the hope of thine approbation, may we cheerfully practice every thing, which is good and acceptable in thy sight. May we

esteem no difficulties too great to surmount, no pleasures too dear to give up, so that we may be able to regard thee, our God, with good hope of thine approbation, at present, and of thy most bountiful rewards at last.

May our temper and conduct towards our fellow-creatures ever be governed, by justice and equity, by tenderness and compassion. May we never allow ourselves to say or do that to others, which, in an exchange of circumstances, we would not wish to be spoken or done unto ourselves.

O father of mercies, help us, amidst the cares pleasures, and pursuits of this transitory life, to remember, that we profess ourselves to be Christians, designed by thee for a nobler state of existence, and hastening a pace towards it.—May we, therefore, use this world as not abusing it, remembering that its fashion passeth away. May we temperate in all things. And And may it be our concern, to lay up our treasures in heaven, where moth cannot corrupt, nor thieves break in and steal; and to harbor a disposition for those pure and rational satisfactions, which are principally to constitute our final blessedness.

O thou God of grace, assist us, in correcting every irregularity of passion, and in advancing towards the perfection of purity and goodness. May we bear in mind the assurance, that, in proportion to our present improvements, will be our rank for glory and happiness, in thy heavenly kingdom above.

May all our friends and relations be the friends of God, friends to virtue, and to their own souls.

May they be favored and guided by thee, thro' this state of trial, and, at last, made completely happy to all eternity. If we have any enemies, may they be brought to a better mind; and do thou forgive and bless them.

By thy gracious protection guard us, this night, from every evil. May our sleep be quiet and refreshing. And may we rise in the morning, with sentiments of gratitude and love to thee, the God of our lives, and the length of our days.

Be gracious to all, under trials and sickness, and to those who are upon the confines of an eternal world. Especially, O God, regard in mercy all those, whom we would, in a particular manner, bear upon our spirits, and whom we recommend to thy tenderest compassions. Afford them all needful helps and supports, and, in thy own due time, a happy deliverance from all their sorrows.

Hear our prayers. Pardon our sins. Grant our lawful desires, for ourselves and others, through the riches of thy grace, in Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

FRIDAY MORNING.

O LORD our God! We would, at this time, bow down before thy glorious majesty, to offer unto thee the tribute of grateful acknowedgments, so constantly due to thee, from reasonable dependant creatures—due, to the perfections of thy nature, and to thine unwearied bounty, and universal providence.

We adore and celebrate the glories of thy power, adorned and directed by unerring wisdom, and everlasting goodness. We bless and praise thee for every instance of thy tender regards to all the children of men.

We bless thee, that, when it pleased thee to bring us into being, we were made capable of knowing and imitating thee, and of enjoying thy favor. We bless thee, that we have been called to the duties of a religion, from which we have received many inestimable advantages, assistances, and privileges, towards answering the true design of our creation. And, above all, we bless thee, if, by the disposals of thy good providence, we have been led to a just sense of a divine life, and of the importance of true religion; and if this sense has been improved and strengthened, by the best sentiments and examples of others, and by the many peculiar instances of thy merciful care and goodness.

Whatever moral imperfections there are still in us, direct us, O God, to the knowledge of them, and to the means of correcting and amending them. Assist us, by all the methods of thy wisdom and goodness, in the great work we have to do,—in perfecting our minds in every thing truly excellent—and in working out our salvation, by methods agreeable to thy holy will and the obligations of reasonable and moral agents. O let it not add to our misery that Christ hath come into the world to save sinners, and that we loved darkness rather than light.

O let the gospel of Jesus Christ, which we profess to believe—the holy precepts of that perfect institution, by which we profess to be guid-

ed—and the unspotted example of that Great Master, whose followers we desire to be accounted, engage us to live, in all respects, as becomes the gospel, and the disciples of Jesus Christ.

Particularly, help us to imitate our blessed Saviour, in those virtues, which he accounted the glory of his own life—in universal love and charity—in a benificent disposition—and in love to all mankind. May we rejoice in the good and comfort of others, add all in our power to their satisfaction and happiness, stoop to the lowest offices of kindness, forgive the sharpest undeserved injuries, and be ever willing to condescend for the public welfare; that so, the truest humility, and the most extensive charity, may adorn every action and circumstance of our lives. May a constant sense of thy goodness to us, induce us to study more and more, and uniformly to endeavour, to please and to imitate thee.

Pardon, O Lord, all our sins, our misimprovment, of our time and talents, of our opportunities and advantages, and of the seasons of grace and mercy, so long continued to us. O suffer us not any longer to be unprofitable servants, or to neglect thy grace and favor, offered to us in the gospel. Graciously continue to us our spiritual privileges, and help us to make the best use of them, to our advancement in virtue and holiness, so necessary to our peace and comfort in this world, and to our everlasting happiness in the next.

Blessed, for ever blessed, be thy name, for the glorious prospects set before us, and the sure words of promise made, in thy holy word, to all thy faithful servants! Blessed be God, for

the joyful assurance given us, that, if we persevere in holiness to the end of life, we shall be happy in the enjoyment of thy favor to all eternity.

We thank thee, O God, for the safety and rest of the past night; and for the ability and opportunity of meeting together this morning, as we are bound by duty and obligation to do, to express our gratitude for thy providential care and goodness to us. Let not the commonness of thy mercies make us inattentive to their value, or forgetful of the bountiful donor of all our blessings. O may we not be made sensible of their worth, by being deprived of them.

Graciously continue thy protection and favor to us this day. Save us from sin, we beseech thee, and from all other evils, if it be thy blessed will. Prosper us in every laudable undertaking. Keep us in thy fear all the day long. May we go out and come in, under the sense of thy presence, and rejoicing in thy protection and favor. And may we in all things be acceptable in thy sight, through him who loved us, and gave himself for us, even, our exalted Mediator, to whom be glory on earth, as it is in heaven, now and forever. *Amen.*

FRIDAY EVENING.

O Lord our God! How adorable art thou! In thee, almighty power, infinite wisdom, and perfect goodness, forever dwell! We thine intelligent creatures rejoice, that so glorious, pow-

erful, and gracious a Being, governs this vast universe. And, as the subjects of thy kingdom, do we now humbly pay our homage and worship unto thee, our Maker, Preserver, and Governor.

Thou alone didst originally form that great design, which is carried into execution in the works of creation and providence; every part of which declareth thine infinite knowledge, and most perfect skill. By thee were all things made. And by thee have they been thus far sustained and preserved. We are satisfied, that all thy works are worthy of thine infinitely perfect mind. And we rejoice to think, that all the dispensations of thy providence towards mankind declare, thine intentions towards them to be, that, by piety and peace in this world, they may be trained up for everlasting happiness, in that which is to come.

To thee, O God, would we offer up our praises and thanksgivings, that thou hast made us capable of some degree of the knowledge of thee, and of thy glorious perfections. And though our present knowledge be low and imperfect, yet that it is able to diffuse the greatest joy and gladness through the heart, and to direct thy creatures to thee, as the unchangeable object of their hope and trust. We rejoice in thy government over us, in thy powerful presence with us, in thy tender paternal care about us, and in that goodness and mercy, which are over all thy works.

As thou, O Lord, in thy holy word, and in the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, has manifested such love to mankind, such earnestness for our deliverance from the power and consequences of sin, and for our happiness in

our eternal abode with thee, may our hearts ever be filled with love and gratitude to thee, and with comfortable hopes and expectations from thine infinite goodness. May we ever maintain a full and cheerful reliance upon it, thoroughly persuaded, that he, who spared not his own son, but freely gave him up to the death for us all, will with him also much more freely give us all things. O may it ever be our delight to serve and honor thee, as thou hast required, by obeying from the heart thy precepts, and by a meek and unreserved submission to thy providence, in all things.

Let the great design, of what our blessed Saviour has done and suffered for us be fully answered in us. Give us a just sense of the deformity and danger of every evil course of life, and of that miserable state, from which he came to save us, as well as of the perfection, glory and happiness, to which he came to exalt us.

O may we ever retain an abhorrence of whatever may dishonor thee, and defeat the designs of thy love and goodness to us. In the pleasing bonds of love and gratitude, may we devote ourselves to thee, and to the purposes of thy glory. In a lively sense of the excellency of holiness, and of thy favor, may we have the joyful foretastes of that happiness, which thy servants shall enjoy, in the perfection of holiness in the world above. O may we now live the life of the righteous; that when we come to die, we may die the death of the righteous, and our latter end be like his.

Have pity and compassion upon all those who are in distress, and under thine afflicting hand

—those who are in poverty and want—those who are grieved for the loss of friends and comforts—those who are under pains or losses—those who are under persecution or trouble of mind. Relieve the poor and needy. Incline the rich charitably to contribute to their necessities. Make up to those, who have lost their friends and comforts, what they enjoyed in them. Be a father to the orphan, a husband to the widow, and a kind friend and comforter to the friendless. May the sick and weak find sufficient supports and consolations from thy tender goodness. May the drooping mind have the light of thy countenance to cheer the heart; and let the persecuted for righteousness sake be strengthened, to bear up under their trials, and e'er long be delivered from all their tribulations.

Blessed be God for thy supporting persevering goodness to us, through this, and all our past days. We commit ourselves to thy merciful guardianship and preservation this night—our souls—our bodies—our property—our habitation—our friends—our relations—our dearest interests. May we sleep in security, and awake in the morning in comfortable circumstances, with grateful hearts, and dispositions proper for the duties of the day ensuing. May all our days upon earth be usefully spent. May we glorify thee in our death; and at last be happy in the enjoyment of thy blessed self to all eternity. All we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

SATURDAY MORNING.

Unto thee, great God, do we now present our praises and thanksgivings. Thou art the supreme maker, and governor of the whole world. Thou rulest in the armies of heaven, and amongst the inhabitants of the earth. Thou doest according to thy will and pleasure, and there is none who can stay thine hand, or say unto thee, What dost thou?

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty! All things in heaven and on earth are thine! Thou art every where present, and all nature is at thy command! We, thy poor unworthy creatures, desire to be willing and obedient subjects of thy government, and would now submit ourselves entirely and cheerfully to thy disposal, and to the rule of thy righteous laws. We acknowledge them all to be just and good, and that in keeping of them there is great reward. Thy ways are ways of pleasantness, and all thy paths are peace.

But we confess, O Lord, that we have often turned aside from the paths of piety and virtue, that we have sinned and done evil in thy sight, and that we are not worthy to be called thy children We cannot plead ignorance of our duty, as an excuse for our offences; for thou hast shewed us what is good, and what thou the Lord requirest from us. But we have not done it, with that care and constancy, with which we ought to have obeyed thee. We deserve thy displeasure. O God, our own hearts do accuse

us, and our consciences witnesss against us.—We have no other hope or confidence, for salvation from our sins, and deliverance from all the miserable consequences of a guilty state, but that goodness and mercy, which thou hast so fully declared, in the revelation of thy mind and will to mankind, by the gospel of Jesus Christ. For we believe the testimony of thy word, that there is no other name given among men, whereby we can be saved, but by the name of Jesus Christ.

O Lord, in the name of Jesus we come unto thee. We present ourselves before thee as his disciples, earnestly imploring the pardon of all our sins. Graciously accept of us, thus returning unto thee, humble and penitent in heart, as we desire to be, and resolving by the help of thy grace, to break off all our sins by righteousness, and to avoid the various temptations, by which we are surrounded. Thou hast mercifully promised thine help and assistance to those who humbly and sincerely ask it from thee. Lord, let it be unto us, thy servants, according to thy word.

O be thou ever present with us, to enable us to subdue any evil habits, we unhappily have contracted, and to acquire the habits of righteousness, purity, charity, and every good and virtuous disposition. Help us, we beseech thee, against our manifold infirmities, and especially, against that sin, which most easily besets us. Deliver us from all irregular passions; and let no iniquities prevail against us, or obtain a dominion over us. May we be upright and sincere before thee, and stedfast in thy covenant. And

may we be daily going forward in the paths of righteousness and virtue, till we be fit to be translated to that heavenly kingdom, to join the blessed spirits above, and to enjoy, with them the communications of thy favor to all eternity.

We desire to unite our thankful acknowledgments for all thy mercies to us, both temporal and spiritual—for Jesus Christ—for the glorious pattern and example he has set before us—for the means of grace—for the hopes of glory—for all our temporal blessings—for the many good things we receive from thy boundless bounty, to sweeten our passage through life, and which we desire to use with temperance and moderation.

We bless thee, O Lord, for the health we enjoy, for thy plentiful provision for our daily wants, for comfortable relations, and kind friends, for all the pleasures of society, and for the constant preservation of a kind providence, which has continually watched over us, and prevented us daily from falling into misfortune, danger, and distress.

Accept our thanks, for thy goodness to us the past night, and for the peace and comfort with which we meet together as a family, this morning. We acknowledge thy favors, and gratefully express our sense of dependance upon thee. Sensible as we cannot but be, that our dependance is entirely and continually upon thee, upon thy paternal care, and constant preservation, may we not dare to omit our morning and evening acknowledgments of thy favours and loving kindness to us. Let not the cares, businesses, or amusements of this life, drive us from our God, and from our duty.

Keep us, good Good God, in thy faith and fear this day, and steadfast in the paths of virtue and holiness. to the end of life. That, when Christ our Judge shall appear, we also may appear with him in glory.

Hear our prayers, we beseech thee, good God; and graciously answer the lawful desires of our souls Be our guide through this state of trial, and finally admit us to the mansions of the blessed, in heaven, through Christ Jesus. our Lord. *Amen.*

SATURDAY EVENING.

O THOU supreme Lord and Governor of the world! who hast made of one blood all nations of men, to dwell on all the face of the earth! We would, at this time, in our hearts wishing well to all our fellow men, commend to thy gracious notice and regards the state of all mankind, most earnestly imploring thy gracious compassion to them, as well as to ourselves.

We pray, that the precious light of the gospel, which we by the favour of thy providence enjoy, may be diffused over all the habitable earth. May an end be put to idolatry, and superstition; and may uncorrupted religion universally prevail.

Do thou, O Lord in great mercy, look upon the Christian world. We pray thee, to send happy days of reformation. Let Anti Christ be overthrown, and let the pure religion of of Jesus every where prevail and flourish. Put an end to

uncharitable contentions, among the professors of the gospel of Christ. May we all be united in the bonds of love and charity. Do thou, O God, support and defend the Protestant cause and interest, which we believe to be thine own cause. Let no weapon formed against it prosper. Let that purity of religion, in which we rejoice, and that liberty of conscience, in which we of this nation are so happy, be preserved and transmitted to the latest posterity.

We pray for our dear native country, these United States. Thou knowest, O Lord, that, for thy name sake, the fathers of this country fled from their persecutors, and settled in this land of liberty, where they might worship thee, who art a spirit, in spirit and in truth, according to the dictates of their own consciences—where they might sit down under their own vines and their own fig trees & find none to make them afraid. Bless and prosper, O, Lord, their descendants and the inhabitants of this land, in all their endeavors to serve thee acceptably and with holy fear. Here plant thy churches, and water them with thy rich blessings, that they may be instrumental to extend the glory of thy name, from the rising of the sun, to the going down thereof and from the rivers to the ends of the earth May their light shine forth to the nations, who now set in darkness and in the regions of the shadow of death, and communicate to the benighted corners of the world the knowedge of thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou sent, to make, atonement for transgression and sin — To thou, O Lord, we pray thee, bless and prosper us in all things. From public and national

judgments do thou mercifully preserve and defend thy people. Send us peaceful, fruitful, and healthful seasons, and fill our hearts with food and gladness.

Bless, we beseech thee the President of the United States. Make him happy, honorable and useful in his high station, by assisting him to govern aright this great people, over whom thy providence has set him. May his counsellors be wise and faithful. Be thou his defence from all the enemies of our country: and strengthen his administration for the good of thy people.

May our rulers and magistrates be men fearing God, and hating covetousness, true lovers of their country, endeavouring to promote peace and the public good, avoiding all corrupt views, selfish practices, and be zealous friends to religion and virtue. May vice be suppressed amongst us, and all iniquity be abashed.

Bless, O Lord, the preaching of the gospel of Jesus, and those who labor in it, every where.—May they be found upright and do thou crown their labours with success.

Bless all our friends and relations. Take them into thy care and protection. Preserve them from evil, and prosper them in their way. Extend thy mercy to the afflicted. Show them favor in the days of their darkness and calamity. Give them patience to suffer all thy will. Support them under, and enable them to bear and to improve their distresses, to the best purposes: and do thou, in due time, command a final deliverance for them out of all their sorrows.

Blessed be God for all the mercies we have

experienced this day. and week, which are now about to close. Let this be a night of safety, refreshment, and comfort to us all. In the morning, may we rise, rejoicing in thy love and goodness and with minds suitably prepared & disposed for the religious duties of thy own ensuing day. And may all our opportunities, and means of grace here, train up our souls to a meetness for the enjoyments and employments of thy kingdom of glory and blssedness, for ever.

These our humble prayers and intercessions for all men, we, from our hearts, offer up unto thee, the Father of mercies, beseeching thee, to accept of us, and to do for us, and for all thy servants, according to the infinite riches of thy grace, and our hope in thee, through Jesus Christ the Son of thy love, and the tender lover of our souls, through whom we ascribe unto thee, O Father, all praise, and thanks, and honor, and glory, for evermore. *Amen.*

APPENDIX.

Devout ejaculations, Meditations, and Exercises of the Mind for Communicants, before partaking of the Lord's Supper.

I. The woman of Samaria said: Come see a man that told me all that ever that I did; is not this the Christ?

II. The Earl of Rochester, of the last century, once a reviler and scoffer of religion, on reading the 53d chapter of Isaiah, burst out into a flood of penitential tears—exclaiming: verily this "*man of sorrows and acquainted with grief,*" is none other, than Jesus, my Saviour and my Lord, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

III. That same Paul, who 'once breathed out threatnings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord,' having become 'a chosen vessel' unto *Him*, 'to bear *His* name before the Gentiles, and kings and children of Israel,' in his first epistle to the Corinthians, Chapter 11 verse 23, says: 'For I have received of the 'Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that 'the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was 'betrayed, took bread; and when he had given 'thanks, he brake it, and said, take, eat; this 'is my body which is broken for you: this do 'in remembrance of me. After the same manner also, he took the cup, when he had supped, 'saying: This cup is the New Testament in 'my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in

'remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this 'bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the 'Lord's death till he come.'

The same night in which he was betrayed he took bread: Yes,

"'Twas on that dark and doleful night
When pow'rs of earth and hell arose
Against the Son of God's delight
And friends betray'd him to his foes."

'Twas then, and before 'the mournful scene began,' being convened with his twelve disciples, our blessed Lord anticipating the hellish plots of his foes, yielded himself a willing victim to the death of the Cross; for says he: 'thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my father and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels,'—then it was that he consented, that his body should be broken for our sins, and that his covenant of love to man should be sealed with his own precious blood.

IV. What condescending grace is this, O my soul? that thine exalted Lord should consent to give himself a sacrifice for thy sins—to be bruised for thy transgressions, that by his stripes thou mightest be healed; yea, that he suffered himself to be brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth, that he might sustain the chastisement of thy peace. O, what manner of love is this, that the Prince of all the earth, should offer himself a willing victim, to make atonement for thy guilt! *Do this in remembrance of me.* Yes, Lord, I would come to thy table, and there, with a grateful heart, record this dying love of mine ascended Lord.

'Do this he cried till time shall end,
In memory of your dying friend:
Meet at my table and record,
The love of your departed Lord.'

V. But art thou worthy, O my Soul, to partake of this precious meat and drink, which our adorable Redeemer has provided for his faithful followers? yea, does it not behoove thee, to examine thyself, to the intent that thou mayest not eat nor drink, unworthily of these rich and holy provisions of God's house? It is verily so: For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh judgment to himself; not descerning the Lord's body, according to Paul, to the Corinthians in the 11th Chapter and 29th verse. But, blessed be thy name, O Lord, that thy compassions fail not, and that I am well assured by thy comfortable word and ordinances, that this is not designed to deject the contrite heart of any brother or sister in the Lord, as if none might partake of this meat and drink, but those who are without sin; 'for we do not come to this supper, to testify thereby, that we are perfect and righteous in ourselves: but on the contrary, that we lie in the midst of death and seek our life, out of ourselves, in Jesus Christ, our Lord.' Do thou then, O Lord, search me, and try me, and see if there be any evil way in me, and lead me in the way that is everlasting. If there be any idol to which I have yielded devotion, O help me to cast that idol from me, and to worship thee, henceforth, in newness of life, and in the beauties of holiness, according to the ways of thine own appointment; for to whom

should I go, but to thee, Lord, for thou hast the words of eternal life?

VI. Sanctify to me at this time, I beseech thee, O Lord, my meditations on the death and sufferings of mine annointed and adorable Saviour. The desire of my soul is to thy name and the remembrance of thee. May I rise in spiritual affections and contemplate Jesus, once made a little lower than the angels for the sufferings of death, now in triumph sitting at the right hand of God, to make intercession for his people! May his example and precepts inspire me to live, not unto myself, but unto Him who died and rose again, leading captivity, captive and conquering death! so that the redeemed of the Lord, may now, triumphantly exclaim: O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? blessed be God, who has given us the victory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord

VII. Holy Spirit! subdue now, in my bosom every unhallowed thought and every unsanctified desire: diffuse that heavenly calm over my mind, which delights in peace on earth and good will towards man—and O, my Triune God, grant that the graces of the spirit may so adorn the powers and faculties of my soul, that my communion, at the approaching feast of love, may be with the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, my adorable God forever.

VIII. I would attend this feast of love, O Lord animated by thy consoling invitations and precious promises. "Come unto me, says my dear Redeemer, all yea that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give rest for your souls:

take my yoke upon you, and learn of me for my yoke is easy and my burthen is light"

Again, he says: "Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come unto him, and I will sup with him and he with me".

Again: "Whosoever eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life: and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed."*

IX. What more dost thou require, my soul, to cheer and comfort thee, at the approaching gospel feast. Or wouldest thou meditate on its joyful sounds: "Ho! every one that thirstest" let him come and take of the waters of life freely: Come buy wine and milk, without money and without price: Come now! let us reason together: although your sins are as scarlet, they shall be as wool; although thy be red, as crimson, they shall be white, as snow."

X. Truly, O Lord, the power of thy word tends to calm the surges of the mind, and to create a hope, both sure and steadfast, that, maketh not ashamed. May thy fellowship then, O my soul, at the next supper of the Lord, be with the Father and Jesus Christ, his Son, who giveth thee the victory over all thy spiritual foes; and graciously affords thee a heavenly fore taste of the joys of thy Father's house, to whom be honor, adoration and praise forever. *Amen.*

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* *See John* 6. 54, 55.

A PRAYER BEFORE THE SACRAMENT.

O ETERNAL and ever glorious GOD, who dwellest in the highest Heavens, and also in the humble, lowly, and contrite heart; with a deep sense of thy adorable excellencies, and of my own vileness and unworthiness, I come unto thee, beseeching thee, for the sake of thy Dear Son, to accept of me a poor prodigal, now returning to thee, and casting myself at thy feet, who am by nature a child of wrath, by practice a child of disobedience, and therefore liable and obnoxious to thine everlasting wrath; but thou of thine infinite goodness hast promised me thy favor and friendship in Christ, if at the call and invitation of thy gospel, I will accept the merit of his death and submit to the authority of his laws, and proclaim and prosecute an open and irreconcilable war against all known sins, the enemies of thy glory, and disturbers of my peace. O Lord, I heartily lament them, and from the bottom of my soul I renounce them all, whether in thought, word, or deed, committed against thy Divine Majesty, faithfully covenanting with thee, for the time to come, not to allow myself in any known sin, but to use all those means which I find prescribed by thee in thy word, for my spiritual advantage and for the death and destruction of all my corruptions. O thou God and Father of Heaven, whose thoughts of mercy towards me have been from everlasting, I dedicate myself, soul body and spirit, to thy service and glory, as a small return of duty and thankfulness for thy wonderful love, promising to serve thee in righteous-

ness and true holiness all the days of my life.—O thou Blessed Jesus! the precious Lamb of God, whose soul was made an offering for sin, and who hast declared thy readiness to receive and embrace repenting and returning sinners, receive me graciously, who am weary and heavy laden with the burden of my sins, and humbly desire by faith to approach unto thee: I own myself unworthy to gather up the crumbs that fall from thy table, much more unworthy to be entertained at it; but seeing such is thy condescending grace and love, to invite me to the participation of thyself, I do here, with all humility, accept thee for my Lord and Saviour, for my King, Priest, and Prophet: O permit me to come to thy Holy Table, to ratify this engagement. And O thou Holy and Good Spirit, the Sanctifier and Comforter of thy Church and Children! enable me to resign myself entirely unto the guidance and dominion of thy grace, that I may evermore hereafter walk in the Spirit, and not fulfil the lusts of the flesh. And now that I am going to thy Holy Table, in obedience to my Lord's command, to commemorate his dying Love, vouchsafe thy gracious presence with me, and render thyself powerfully present to my mind and thoughts. O help me, that I may attend my Lord without distraction: enable me to give up myself an holy and acceptable sacrifice to my Redeemer, who has given himself a meritorious sacrifice for my redemption. O help me to follow my blessed Lord's example, and to tread in the steps of his most holy life. Let me admire and imitate his condescending humility, his fervent charity, his patience under sufferings,

his readiness to forgive injuries; and let the same mind ever be in me, which was also in Christ Jesus; that having been a welcome guest at thy Holy Table here on earth, I may hereafter be adjudged worthy to be called to the Supper of the Lamb, and may feast with my blessed Redeemer, in his everlasting kingdom. And now Lord, what wait I for, but the sanctifying influence of thy Holy Spirit, to render my imperfect services acceptable in thy sight, which I pray thee O Lord to grant, for the sake of Jesus, the son of thy love; and to thee shall be the praise and the glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

ANOTHER PRAYER BEFORE THE SACRAMENT.

O LORD, my covenant God, I adore thee, as the God and Father of my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and as the father of mercies, from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift. I would at this time appear before thee, with a deep sense of my own unworthiness and imperfection, and implore thy pardon of my numerous sins and transgressions, through the merits of a crucified Saviour, whom, in the fullness of time, thou hast ordained and sent to be a propitiation for a guilty world. I bless thee, Lord, that when there was no eye to pity, nor arm to save, that then thou didst lay help on one that is mighty and able, to save to the uttermost, all them that come unto God by him. I thank thee, O Lord, for this distinguished evidence of thy love to the children of men. If thou hadst left

them in the awful condition, in which their sins had plunged them, they must forever have been as miserable, as their own iniquities had made them sinful. But glory be to thy name, thou hast caused the *Day spring* from on high, to visit our race, proclaiming liberty to the captive, and the opening of the prisons, to them that were bound ; yea, pouring celestial day on the eyeballs of the spiritually blind.

May I, with great devotion, attend at the table of my Lord, to remember his dying love to degenerate man, his resurrection from the dead, his glorious ascension into heaven, and the certainty of his appearing without sin unto salvation. May a sense of my great unworthiness greatly affect me with sorrow and penitence for my trespasses and follies—remembering that Jesus my Passover, was slain for me. May I receive the bread and wine, as the memorials of the love of my bleeding Saviour, according to his own wise and kind design, in the institution of this sacred festival, to nourish dying sinners, and revive their souls with the meat and drink that endureth to eternal life. May the language of my soul be, when approaching thy supper, Lord : whom have I in heaven, but thee, and there is none on this earth, whom I desire besides thee ; when my heart and my strength faileth me, then thou art the strength of my heart and my portion forever

O may I receive that quickning grace from thee, in my future experience, by means of attending on this ordinance, that I may be enabled henceforth, to live unto thee with renewed constancy and devotedness, under the comfortable

and animating hope, that when Christ, who is my life, shall appear, I shall also appear with him in glory. Thus encouraged I would celebrate the dying love of mine exalted Redeemer, with whom there are fullness of joys and at whose right hand are pleasures forever more.—to whom be glory honor and dominion, now and forever. *Amen.*

DEVOUT EJACULATIONS, MEDITATIONS, AND EXERCISES OF THE MIND,

For Communicants after partaking of the Lord's Supper.

I. What infinite love is this, O my soul, which thou hast now experienced? *He* that was holy and harmless, undefiled and without sin, compassionating thy lost and fallen condition, by nature, hath through the riches of his grace, offered himself a willing victim to the painful death of the Cross, to make atonement for thy sin; and given thee the all sufficient provisions of his own sacred body and precious blood, to quicken and nourish thee unto eternal life. For, says thine adorable Saviour: 'except ye eat the flesh of the son of man and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.' *Again*, he says: 'I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me.

II. Impressed with a sense of my degeneracy and misery by nature—exposed to the eternal displeasure of the pure and holy God of all the earth—without hope and without happiness, I

rejoice in the all-sufficient merits of a crucified Saviour, yea, Lord, I have come unto thee, according to the consoling invitation of thy word, to meet thee at thy table; and

"Behold! I fall before thy face;
My only refuge is thy grace:
No outward forms can make me clean,
The leprosy lies deep within."

III. So great manifestation of the love of my dear Saviour to worthless, perishing sinners, as I have now experienced at thy table, not only excites my warmest gratitude, and demands my future veneration of his laws and precepts, but constrains me to live unto thee, O my Lord, who paid the price of my redemption, and hath become the author and finisher of my faith, and of a hope full of immortality.

IV. Truly this is a feast of love, inasmuch as the Lord of glory, who is holy, undefiled and separate from sinners, has in the institution of this, his holy supper, shewn his tender mercy to fallen and apostate man, and pitied him in his low estate, by condescending to hold sweet communion with him, in this feast of love, that he might restore him to the favor of heaven, and the joys of paradise

V. Seeing then, that it is the love of Christ that hath procured for me the benefits and blessings of this supper, one who is defiled with sin, and unworthy of the least of his favors, come, O my soul, return him the zealous emotions of thine own love, and shew thine unfeigned benevolence to thy fellow-men, and especially these, who are of the household of faith and joint partakers with thee of the spiritual provisions of

God's house. Henceforth be it thy steadfast resolution to lay aside all envy, malice, hatred and guile, and to walk in true love with thy neighbor.

"We are but several parts
Of the same broken bread;
The body hath its sev'ral limbs,
But Jesus is the head."

VI. Having by your late appearance at the Lord's table, renewed your covenant with God, walk worthy of the vocation, wherewith thou art called—walk in newness of life, adorning in all things the doctrine of God our Saviour, that the world may take knowledge of thee that thou hast been with Jesus.

II. Come then, O my soul, under the cheering sense of his grace, and the anticipation of a final triumph sealed in this ordinance—and with joy and thankfulness, acknowledge the unbounded love and compassion of thine ascended Lord.

III. And now, O my soul, bless the Lord, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all iniquities: who healeth all thy diseases: who redeemeth thy life from destruction: who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies.

See Plalm 103.

A PRAYER AFTER THE SACRAMENT.

FOR ever blessed be thy great, thy glorious, and thy holy name, O Lord, for all the unspeakable favors and benefits vouchsafed to me and to all mankind: particularly for thy invaluable love in giving thy dear Son to die for me as a sacrifice, and to be my spiritual food and sustenance in the Holy Sacrament. Lord, who and what am I, that thou hast been pleased to admit me this day into thy presence, to renew my covenant with thee, which I have so often, and so perversely broken before thee! I have once more lifted up my hands to the Most High God, and sworn allegiance to my Sovereign, and my Saviour: O keep it in the purpose of my heart forever, to continue steadfast in thy covenant; and let neither the smiles of a flattering world allure me, nor the frowns, threats and terrors of an angry world, be ever able to drive me from my duty, or hinder me in the way of well doing. Holy Father, accept, I beseech thee, of that renewed dedication which I have made of myself this day unto thee, even of my whole man, soul, body and spirit, to thy service and honor. And now glory be to thee, O God the Father, whom I shall, from this day forward, with an humble expectation, look up unto, as my father and God in covenant: Glory be to thee, O God the Son, who hast loved me, and washed me from my sins in thine own blood, and art now become my Saviour, my Justifier and Redeemer; Glory be to thee, O God the Holy Ghost, who hast, by the power of thy victorious grace, overcome the

obstinacy of my heart, and turned it from sin to God. O Lord God! thou hast been pleased to permit me to renew my baptismal covenant, O grant me the assistance of thy grace, that I may be faithful in that covenant; for truly I am thy servant, heartily devoted to thy fear; O let me never more start aside from my vows like a broken bow, but give me such a steadfastness and stability of mind, such a firmness and fixedness of resolution, that my after-conversation may be suitable both to my present, profession, and future expectation; that so I may, in all companies, and in all conditions, walk worthy of him that has called me to his kingdom and glory.—Now to him who hath loved us and washed us in his own blood and made us kings and priests unto God, be honor and glory and power and dominion now and forever. *Amen.*

A Paragraph to be added on a Sacrament Day Evening.

Blessed be God, for the opportunity any of us have had, this day, of commemorating the love of Jesus Christ, who came into the world, to live, to die, to rise again, in order that we might be saved from the wrath to come. May the sympathies of the spiritual relation be cherished with ardour, under the animating hope that with one heart and one voice, we may unite in the sublime employment of that world, where the lamb in the midst of the throne shall feed us and lead us unto fountains of living waters, and God

shall wipe away all tears from our eyes. Even so, *Amen.*

STRENGTHEN me O Lord, by this holy Supper in the Catholic, undoubted, christian faith, whereof I would make confession with my mouth and heart, saying:

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins: the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Aspiration of Praise to the Adorable Trinity.

The God of mercy be ador'd
Who calls our souls from death,
Who saves by his redeeming word,
And new created breath.
To praise the Father and the Son
And Spirit, all divine,
The One, in Three, and Three in One,
Let saints and Angels join.

END OF FIRST PART.

Jamar Brown
Born March 13
1800

Mary ann Born
July 13th 1825

Charles Born
Nov 24th 1827

John Jones Born
Oct 13th 1830

Thomas Lee Born
Oct 25th 1832

Charles Dick
April 2d 1827

THE

CHRISTIAN COMFORTER.

PART II.

Charles Sumner
April 26 1874

THE CHRISTIAN COMFORTER.

PART II.

A Prayer for Christmas-Day.

"Joy to the world the Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King:
Let every heart prepare him room,
And Heav'n and Nature sing."

O Lord God of our salvation! We would at this time appear before thee, and with grateful hearts, acknowledge the riches of thy grace, in that thou hast remembered us in our low estate and in the fullness of time, hast sent thine only begotten son into our world; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

When there was no help to be found, no eye to pity, nor arm to save, then didst thou raise up a deliverer in the house of thy servant David, and endowed him with power to enlighten the blind—to quicken the dead—to comfort the mourner—and, to communicate the riches of thy grace to the children of want.

None but thy blessed self, O God, the gracious giver, can sufficiently know the greatness of the gift, which thou hast conferred upon us, in giving thine only Son, to be our almighty Saviour, to deliver us from sin, guilt, and ruin,

and to make all sufficient provision for our eternal salvation.

O how wonderful have been the designs of thy love, and the counsels of thy wisdom, to reconcile the world to thyself, and to promote our everlasting happiness!

God of all grace! incline our hearts to embrace with cordiality, the salvation offered in the gospel of thy son: cause us to behold thy glory as it is in the face of Jesus Christ—And resting on his obedience and death, may we rejoice amidst all the trials of life and the last conflict with the king of terrors, with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

O may our hearts overflow with gratitude to thee, the Bountiful Author of all our spiritual and heavenly blessings that our ears are this day saluted with the joyful sound: 'behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for *unto us is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.*' Our grateful souls would acknowledge this great event, by uniting in anthems of praise, to proclaim glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, and good will towards men. O may this 'Wonderful Counsellor,' this 'Mighty God,' this 'Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace,' this 'Alpha and Omega,' this 'bright and Morning Star,' this 'Saviour of men,' this 'Immanual, God with us,' ever be dear and precious to the souls of men; yea, may he be to us, as one among ten thousand, and altogether lovely. O may we receive this gift of thy grace, which enriches its possessor, for the life that now is and for that which is to come, as the most valua-

ble bequest of our Heavenly Father, to a guilty world. O, that our souls may not forget all his benefits—who forgiveth all our iniquities—who healeth all our diseases—who redeemeth our lives from destruction—who crowneth us with loving kindness and tender mercies.'

Justice and mercy are now reconciled, righteousness and truth extended; and God remains just, while he is the justifier of those who believe in the name of Jesus Christ, whom he hath sent to be a propitiation for our sins. O, the height and depth of the goodness, love and compassion of our God to a lost world, that the Christian may henceforth with a hope full of immortality exclaim: 'Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation.'

Now to God, who loved us in our low estate, to Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world, and to the Holy Spirit, the blessed comforter of the new covenant, three in one, the God whom we adore, be honor and glory and dominion and praise, now and forever. *Amen.*

A PRAYER ON THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR.

O ALMIGHTY Jehovah. Thou art our Father, and we venerate thee: Thou art our God, and we adore Thee. We would now thankfully recollect thy great goodness to us. O Lord, thro' the last year, which is now closing. With the most grateful sentiments we would say, hith-

erto the Lord hath helped us—Goodness and mercy have followed us all our days. At the close of another year we are still here before thee, in comfortable circumstances, surrounded with the blessings of life. We praise thee, that thou hast added another year to our lives, and hast crowned it also with thy goodness, both to our bodies and our souls. Blessed be God, that we are not numbered with the dead, and that we are still here before thee, the monuments of thy kind preservation, and of thy praise.

We thank thee, for personal and family blessings—for peace—health—and every agreeable accommodation of life. Thou hast continued our comforts,—preserved us in safety—succeeded our affairs—kept us from sufferings of various kinds—and hast continually watched over us and ours, from the begining of the year to the end of it. Thou hast continued to us the means of grace, and still holdest out to our view the hopes of glory.

O may all this undeserved goodness lead us to repentance, and amendment of life. Wherein we have done wickedly or foolishly, may we resolve to do so no more.—We have great reason, O Lord, to be ashamed of our past follies, when we see them so greatly aggravated by thy continued, never-failing bounty and goodness to us.

We earnestly beg thy pardon of all our offences, for thy mercy's sake, O Lord. O, incline our souls, for the future, to do thy holy will and to delight in obeying thy statutes and commandments; for we know that the fear of the Lord, is the beginning of wisdom, that her ways, are ways

of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.—Through many difficulties and dangers thou hast, hitherto, conducted us; and preserved us to this time, the spared monuments of thy great mercy and goodness; therefore would we, at this time, draw near unto thee, our kind Benefactor, and express unto thee our gratitude and praise. May the close of this year remind us, that the time cometh, when these, our bodies, must close their earthly carrier, and decend to the dust, from whence thy were moulded, and our spirits appear before God, to give an account of our deeds done in the body, whether they have been good, or whether they have been evil—that the night cometh when no man can work—and that there is no art, nor knowledge nor device in thy grave, whether we are hastening. O, then, grant Lord, that we may, in this our day, attend to the things that belong to our everlasting peace before they are forever hidden from our eyes. May we henceforth act wisely and not as fools, redeeming the time, because the days are evil; so that when we come to the end of our pilgrimage, here below, we may enjoy a well grounded hope, that this corruptible, shall put on incorruption, and this mortal, immortality, and death be swallowed up in victory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom be blessing and honor, dominion and praise forever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer on New-Year Day.

GREAT, good and glorious Lord, our God! We desire, at the opening of the year, to draw near unto thee, with hearts overflowing with love and gratitude, and to express unto thee our acknowledgment of praise and thanksgiving, that thou hast added another year to our lives; and hast crowned it also with thy goodness, both to our souls and bodies.

Blessed be God that we are still spared, and in the land of the living; and that we are here before thee, in comfort, the monuments of thy kind preservation, and of thy praise.

We bless, and magnify thee, for the enjoyment of health. Thou art the health of our countenance, and our God. If any of us have been visited with affliction, we bless God, for the gentleness of his chastisement, for recovery and restoration, and that we now appear together, rejoicing in thy mercy and salvation.

But we would confess, with sorrow and grief, all our sins and foolish faulty conduct; our omissions of duty, our careless performances, our forgetfulness of God, and our great inattention to our best interests and eternal hopes, in the course of the year through which we have now passed. And, blessed be thy name, there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared, and plenteous redemption in the precious blood of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. We therefore humbly hope, and earnestly pray, for the forgiveness of all our past offences, through the rich mercies of his

covenant grace and love. In his name we pray for pardon. Lord, take away all our guilt; receive us graciously; and give us an interest in thy favor and love.

Our earnest prayer is to thee, O God of all grace, for thine assistance, and the influence of thy holy spirit, to establish all our pious resolutions, and to render all our endeavors in the practice of holiness, successful and effectual. May thy grace be always sufficient for us, and thy strength made perfect in our weakness. May this first day of the year remind us of our obligations to live to thee, with new devotedness—evincing by a new life that former things have passed away, and all things become new, and forgetting the things that are behind us, stretch forward to those that are before us, even the high prize of our calling, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord; yea, may we henceforth strive for the renewal of the spirit of our minds, according to the tenor of that blessed gospel, by which life and immortality have been brought to light,

To thee we commend ourselves, our family, and dear connections, for the ensuing year; beseeching thy care, and blessing on us and ours, and upon all our concerns, spiritual and temporal; begging, that we may pass through it in such circumstances, as thou knowest to be best for us. If it be thy blessed will, may our health and comforts be continued: if not, prepare us for every change, through which thou mayest think proper to lead us; and particularly, for our last great change, if that be appointed. And teach us so to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom; resting satisfied with

the appointments of thine unerring providence in this world; and at last, attain the end of our faith, and hope, in the eternal salvation of our souls, in the blessed regions above, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom we would ascribe all honor, glory and praise, now and forever.—*Amen.*

Morning Prayer on a Public Thanksgiving.

"See gracious Lord, before thy throne,
Thy mourning people bend!
'Tis on thy sov'reign grace alone
Our humble hopes depend."

O Almighty God and most merciful Father! Thou art the Lord, and there is none besides thee. The Gods of the nations are dumb idols, but our God is the Lord, who hath made the heavens and the earth. The heavens declare thy glory, and the earth sheweth forth thine handy works All creatures, in all places of thy dominion, were called into being by thy creating voice; and thy power and providence sustains and supports them. Thou art great in holiness, fearful in praises, a God doing wonders. We would, at this day, set apart, for thy solemn worship and praise, under a deep sense of our guilt and unworthiness, in the sight of our immaculate Jehovah, (who searcheth the hearts and trieth the reins of the children of men,) bow ourselves before thee, and thy glorious majesty, and with humble and contrite hearts, implore thy

compassion on our frailty and degeneracy, and merciful forgiveness of all our private offences and national transgressions; Yea, Lord, we all have sinned and come short of thy glory. Give us, we pray thee, sincere repentance for our numerous sins of omission and commission, and for all our past offences against thy just and righteous commandments. And, O grant us the teachings of thy spirit, to direct us, for the future, in a better obedience to thy statutes—and that we may henceforth walk before thee blameless, in the ways of holiness and peace.

Pardon, we beseech thee, our crying sins; spare us, good Lord, and avert the judgments our iniquities deserve. Help us, to reform each one himself, and to endeavor to amend, whatever has been amiss in our past conduct. Help us, to join with our fellow Christians this day, in public worship, with great sincerity, and devotion of heart. And do thou lend a gracious ear to the lawful desires of our souls.

Be thou entreated, O God, not to remember against us, in anger, the great and aggravated sins of our dear native land, which have given thee just cause to be displeased with us, and to chastise us in thy wrath. We all have abundant cause to lay our hands on our mouths, humble ourselves in the dust, and cry 'guilty, guilty; Lord we have greatly sinned against thee. But, blessed be thy name, that inflexible as is thy justice, so abundant is thy mercy, that thy compassions fail not—that we are assured from thy holy and comfortable revelation, that thou wilt be merciful to our transgressions, and remember not our iniquities against us, when, with contrite

hearts, we mourn over them, and seek thy reconciled face, through the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things, than the blood of Abel.

Now then, we beseech thee, O Lord, renew thy favors and thy blessings to the citizens of these United States. Impress thy statutes on their hearts, that they may become a holy and a happy people, fearing God, walking uprightly, and loving mercy. May charity and brotherly love ever distinguish our national character.—Guide and direct the President of these United States, our public counsellors, and legislative bodies, in all their deliberations and efforts for the peace and prosperity of these states Preserve us from wars, famine, pestilence and other national calamities; and be thou the ark of our safety, in the days of our national adversity and distress.

Our eyes are upon thee, O God, as our only great Saviour and Deliverer; in times of danger be thou our shield, to preserve us from threatning and deserved judgments.

O send down amongst us, a spirit of love and unanimity; heal our breaches; reconcile our differences; help us to love as brethren; consulting each other's interest and happiness; and thus to lay a foundation for a lasting harmony and peace.

Save us, O God, from our provoking sins, and from thine anger; direct our ways to please thee; and help us so to make our peace with God, that thou mayest make even our enemies to be at peace with us. May we be saved from all our guilt, and all our fears; and have much occasion

given us for praise, and thanksgiving to thee, the Lord of Hosts, in whom is all our hope; for thou art a God of all power and everlasting mercy. Bless and prosper, O Lord, the preaching among us of the gospel of reconciliation, through a crucified Redeemer. May the heralds of the Cross among us richly abound with the graces of the spirit, which maketh wise unto salvation, and be faithful and zealous laborers in the vineyards of the Lord, which, through the riches of his grace, have been planted in this western hemisphere. May here the incorruptible seed be abundantly sown, that bringeth forth those peaceable fruits of righteousness, which constitute the glory, honor and happiness of a people. Now then to him, who loved us and washed us in his own blood, and made us kings and priests unto God, be ascribed all honor, power and dominion, world without end. *Amen.*

Evening Prayer, of a public Thanksgiving.

O LORD God of our salvation. We bless and praise thy holy name, for the privilege we have this day enjoyed, of appearing in thy house and and uniting with a worshiping assembly, in the solemn duties of prayer and thanksgiving, which was our reasonable service. How amiable are thy tabernacles O Lord of hosts A day in thy courts is better, than a thousand. We would rather be door-keepers in the courts of our God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

While (doubtless) many have been this day excluded from thy sanctuaries, by disease or bodily infirmities; and other, have absented themselves therefrom, through careless indifference, or infatuated by the God of this world, see in the Saviour, no form or comeliness, that he should be desired; praised be thy holy name, O Lord, that we have been permitted, to unite in the prayer and thanksgivings which have been offered up to thee, in thine earthly courts this day: O may it be for the good of our dear native land and the interests of thy churches here, that we have now spread our supplications before thee, humbly acknowledged our sins and trespasses, and solicited thy compassion on our guilty land. May the prayers, which have this day been spread before, thee by thy people in their retirement & in all our churches, meet with thy gracious acceptance. And may it please the Lord to avert his threatened judgments from us; and in wrath, remember mercy. Cause us, henceforth, to seek refuge, under all our sorrows in the hope, that is set before us in the gospel; and grant us the peace and purity which flow from the application of that precious blood of Jesus, which cleanseth from all sin. Blot out, we pray thee, our private and public offences from the book of thy remembrance; and, left upon us the light of thy reconciled countenance, and bless us with all heavenly and spiritual blessings. Make us a willing people in the day of thy power; and fill our hearts with joy and rejoicing that the *Day-Spring* from on high has visited us. May our magistrates rule in thy fear & our ministers of religion be active zealous & successful in proclaim-

ing the unsearchable riches of Christ. May we henceforth sit down under our own vines & under our own fig trees, and there be nothing to hurt or destroy in all our borders.

Pardon the sins of our holy things and mercifully accept of this day's work and duty.

O pour down a spirit of reformation amongst us. Do not destroy us, O Lord our God. Still let us be that happy people, whose God is the Lord; and give us cause to rejoice in thy salvation. May we live to the praise and glory of our covenant God, that our days may be long and prosperous in the land, which our Lord, hath given us; to whom be blessing, thanksgiving and glory forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a Believer under the light of God's countenance.

I WOULD at this time, appear before thee, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of my Fathers, and pour out my soul before thee, O thou Holy one of Isreal. Thou, O Lord, didst call me into being, and give me a breathing in thine air, and a standing on thine earth.—Thy providence guarded me in infancy, guided me in youth, and, upholds me in manhood. Thou art my only hope and refuge in distress, and thy consolations, on all occasions, cheer my spirit. This earth would be a gloomy scene, indeed, without the presence of my God. I have none other in heaven, but thee, and there is none on this earth, whom I desire besides thee; for

when my heart and my strenght faileth me, thou art the strenght of my heart and my portion forever. In thee I live, and move, and have my being. Thy guardian care shields me from all harm. Thou givest me health and peace and the joys of social life. Thou preparest a table for me in the presence of mine enemies, and maketh my cup of blessings to overflow with thy bounties.

Thou dost put more joy and gladness in my heart, than the most favored child of this earth when his corn and oil doth most abound. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Thou makest me lie down in green pastures: thou leadest me beside the still waters: thou restorest my soul: thou leadest me in the paths of righteousness, for thy name's sake. Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

I would bless the Lord that thou hast imparted to me, thy unworthy servant, the joys of thy salvation, through a crucified Saviour—that thou hast in and by him redeemed my life from destruction, and crowned me with loving kindness and tender mercies. But O, Lord, what is man that thou should be mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou should regard him; yea, what is thy unworthy servant, now before thee, that thou shouldest condescend to shew him thy favor. I acknowledge, O Lord, that I am unworthy to appear before thee, with my own imperfect righteousness, or works or obedience, thereby to merit the least of thy favors; for I know that my best righteousness is but as filthy

rags, and that wert thou strict to mark my sins and trespasses against me, I could not answer thee, for one, of a thousand. Alas! the leprosy of sin has spread through all my powers:—through the soul, as the seat of vain imaginations, and through the body, as the instrument of sin.—From the crown of my head, to the soles of my feet, I have no soundness in me, that I could stand before thee, my God, without exclaiming: guilty! guilty! Lord I have sinned against thee and done evil in thy sight, and that continually. But blessed be thy name, there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared, and that thou hast revealed thyself, as a God, reconciling sinners to thyself, and hast promised to remember no more their offences, and assured them of acceptance through the all sufficient atonement of Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant.

These glad tidings of great joy, revealed in thy precious gospel, console thy servant in the house of his pilgrimage. The Lord now sees no iniquity in Jacob, nor perversion in Israel. I know that my Redeemer liveth and that he shall stand in the latter days upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet, in my flesh, shall I see God. Therefore I rest in hope, that when Christ, who is my life, shall appear, I also shall appear with him in glory. Henceforth then I would rejoice in the God of my salvation—that the lines have fallen to me in pleasant places—that I have a goodly heritage, even the animating hope that when I come to walk through the valley of the

shadow of death, I need fear no evil, for thy rod and thy staff they shall comfort me.

For me then to live, is Christ, and to die is gain; so this is my refuge under every woe, that thou hast made with me an everlasting covenant, well ordered in all things and sure. This is all my salvation and all my desire. Now to God, the Father and Jesus Christ our Lord, his Son, and to the Holy Spirit the promised Comforter, three persons in one Godhead, the Lord whom I worship, be everlasting praises. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Divine Protection.

O ALMIGHTY God, and most merciful Father! I desire, at this time, to approach thee with humility of spirit, and to implore thy fatherly care and protection. Yea, Lord, to whom should I go, but to thee, for thou hast the words of eternal life. Thou art the author of my being, the former of my spirit, and the God from whom I derive all my comforts and enjoyments. Thy kind providence has hitherto sustained me, and thy free spirit upheld me, until the present hour. Accept, I pray thee, O Lord, my grateful acknowledgments for all the benefits and favors which thou hast bestowed upon me, since I was born. Condescend, I beseech thee, to continue thy divine protection over me, and deliver me from the evil consequences of my transgressions and follies. Be thou, I pray thee my sun and shield, a light unto my feet and a lamp unto my path, to preserve me from the errors of my ways,

and the dangers to which I am exposed from my numerous enemies, in my earthly pilgrimage.—Endue me with such dispositions and powers, as may carry me innocently and safely through all the future changes and trials that may be connected with my mortal career. Enable me, O Lord, so to number my days, as to apply my heart unto wisdom, and make me duly sensible that wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness & all her paths peace. Teach me to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present evil world, with an humble resignation to the allotments of thy providence.

Grant that I may pass the time of my sojourning here in thy fear, resting satisfied, with whatsoever thou shalt see fit to order in my lot. Go thou with me, I beseech thee, where I go. Stay with me, where I stay. Enable me to go on my way rejoicing confiding in thy protecting care. Take me, as it were, by the hand, and lead me safely through the various changes of my life. If thou lead me not, I shall fall into danger. If thou guide me not, I will run into error. Be thou my rock and my fortress, and on my right hand and on my left, that I be not moved; for I know that thy favor is life and that thy loving kindness is better than life; yea, that every good and perfect gift cometh down from thee, the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness or shadow of turning. And as I have here no abiding city, O grant me the teachings of thy spirit, that I may seek one that is to come: and give me the consoling hope, that when the earthly house of this tabernacle shall be dissolved, I have a building of God, an house not made with

hands, eternal in the heavens, and that when Christ, who is my life shall appear, I also will appear, with him in glory. Preserve me, O merciful Father from the temptations and wiles of the wicked and all my adversaries; and uphold me by thy free spirit. Bless me with that share of health and prosperity, which may best comportwith thy glory and my welfare. Teach me, at all times, to reflect that Thou, Lord, seest me, and that not a hair can fall from my head, without the will of my Father, who is in heaven. May the sense of thy omnipresence and guardian care cheer and solace me in my journey through life, and constrain me to let my light so shine before men, that others seeing my good works, may glorify thee, my heavenly Father — Do thou more and better for me, than I can think or ask, and the praise and the glory shall be thine forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a Child, to be used Morning and Evening.

Almighty God, who madest me, and hast preserved me to this hour, I praise and glorify thy name for all thy mercies. Look graciously upon me, and bless me, I humbly beseech thee; pardon all my sins, and give me grace to remember and put in practice my baptismal vow, by renouncing the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh. O do thou incline my heart to that which is good; give me grace

to fear thee, and to keep thy commandments; make me [*dutiful to my father and mother, loving to my brothers and sisters*] obedient to my teachers, humble and reverent to all my betters, meek and courteous to all people.

Preserve me from bearing malice or hatred in my heart, from lying and stealing, and from all evil thoughts, words, and actions. Guide me by thy holy spirit, that I may live to thy glory, and hereafter obtain everlasting life.

Lord, bless the whole family of mankind—visit the benighted corners of the earth with the rays of thy blessed gospel—extend thy peculiar favor to all those who are of the household of faith, and be thou nigh, with the rich consolations of thy word and spirit, to all my relations and friends. Withdraw not I beseech thee, thy holy spirit from them, but be unto them and thine unworthy servant, who now spreads this petition before thee, a present help in every time of need. May the love of Christ constrain us all to live not unto ourselves, but unto him, who invests all with the privileges of the children of God, who come unto the Father by him—to him be honor, dominion and praise, forever and ever. *Amen.*

A Morning Prayer for a Private Person.

O ETERNAL and ever blessed God! Thou art, in thyself, infinitely glorious; in the Son of thy love, amazingly gracious. In all humility I bow before thee, adoring thy Divine Majesty,

by whose power I was brought into the world, and by whose Providence I have been preserved to this moment. I acknowledge that I brought a sinful nature into the world with me, from whence all actual transgressions have flowed and proceeded, as impure streams from a polluted fountain. O Lord, humble me, and that greatly, for my original, corruption, for the follies of my childhood, for the vanities and impieties of my youth, and the transgressions and provocations of my riper years; give me a particular sight of them; work in my soul an ingenuous and godly sorrow for them, and an entire hatred and enmity against them: Accept of the death and sufferings of thy Son, as a full satisfaction of thy justice for all the wrong I have done to the holiness of thy law, and enable me by faith to repose the entire trust and confidence of my soul on the sufficiency of his merits. O let thy holy spirit, for the time to come, so direct, sanctify, and govern both my heart and life in the ways of thy laws, and in the words of thy commandments, that in all my thoughts, words, and works, I may ever seek thy honor and glory, and may so order my conversation aright, that at death I may see the salvation of God. Prepare me for a sick bed, and fit me for the dying hour; O let not God be a stranger, nor my concience a terror to me when I come to die; but do thou mercifully assist and succour me in my last moments; "In the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, Good Lord, deliver me," and conduct me safely to thine everlasting kingdom. I Bless thy name, O Lord, for that good providence of thine which has

brought me to the light of an other day; do thou so prevent me with thy grace, so direct and assist me by thy holy and Good Spirit, that I may not this day run into any sin and temptation; that I may not follow, nor be led by any worldly or carnal lusts; but be enabled, in my place and station, to perform my duty to thyself, and my neighbour, with such care, fidelity, and cheerfulness, as may be acceptable both to God and man. Subdue in my heart O Lord, every inordinate desire and anxious care about my worldly state and condition Keep me from taking thought, saying: what shall I eat! or what shall I drink! or where withal shall I be clothed! And give me grace first to seek the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof, trusting that all other needful things will be added thereto. I would desire to depend on thee, with humble confidence, for the supply of all my wants, believing that thou art abundantly able to satisfy all my necessities. For I know that the fowls of the air sow not, nor reap not, nor gather into barns; yet that thou, my heavenly Father, feedeth them: yea, I consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: that they toil not, nor spin not; yet that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. I would therefore come unto thee, asking that I may receive—seeking, that I may find—and knocking that to me may be opened, trusting that as earthly fathers, who are evil, know to give good gifts to their children, my heavenly Father will, much more, give good things to such who ask him. O grant, that in whatever condition thy providence may place me, whether prosperous

or adverse, that I may be therein contented, knowing that not a hair can fall from my head, without thy will, and that thou orderest all things for the best of thy people. When I am weak, strengthen thou me. When I am in distress, comfort me. Be thou on my right hand and on my left, that I be not moved. Be my refuge and fortress in every time of need; and the health of my countenance and my God, through the various changes of my life. Remember O Lord, all my relations for good, requite the kindness of my friends, forgive mine enemies, and enable them to forgive me also. O bestow on me all such blessings as may be necessary for my temporal and spiritual welfare; and teach me to know and do thy will, that I may find hope and comfort in believing the testimonies of thy word: and be finally accepted of by thee, in thy kingdom of thy glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ, my Lord. *Amen.*

An Evening Prayer for a Private Person.

Most holy and ever blessed Lord God! the Father of mercies, the fountain of goodness, and the author of all grace! I desire again this evening to bow before thy mercy seat, to adore and praise thy glorious majesty, for thy gracious care and providence over me the day past. Pardon, most merciful Father, I most humbly beseech thee, whatever sins I have committed, or whatever duties I have omitted this day, contrary to my resolutions and obligations; pity my

weaknesses, and accept my sincere endeavors to serve and glorify thee. Wherein I have been wont to slip, Lord, help me to be more watchful; wherein I have been careless and negligent, let me use greater diligence and circumspection; help me more sensibly to groan under this body of sin, which I carry about with me, and which so interrupts me in thy service, that 'when I would do good, evil is present with me.' And O that the sense of the corruption which I find stirring in my soul, may cause me more earnestly to implore the help of thy blessed Spirit, which alone can enable me to mortify all my evil and corrupt affections, 'to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.'—Raise up my affections above this world, and the things below, and place them upon thyself, and the things that are above; help me daily to call to mind the things of eternity, and another world, and to believe them as certainly, as if I saw them with my bodily eyes.

O may Jesus, the friend of sinners, be exceeding precious to my soul, and my all sufficient portion in every time of need, that in and through him I may triumph over all the enemies of my salvation. Blessed Jesus, let thy consolations cheer my spirit, in the house of my pilgrimage. May thy ways to me ever be ways of pleasantness, and thy paths, peace. Thou who makest the out-goings of the morning and the evening to rejoice, O cause my soul to rejoice in the riches of thy grace. When wearied, with the cares and businesss of the day, I repose on my pillow for refreshment, O vouchsafe to impart to me a

portion of thy spirit, solace me during the silent watches of the night; and may my meditations of thee then be sweet and frequent. Keep me from perplexing thoughts and distracting dreams; and let thy grace be at all times sufficient for me. I would now thank thee, O Lord, for all thy favors and benefits ever since I was born, and especially for thy providential care over me this day, for the means of religious knowledge, for food and raiment and all the comforts of life; and above all, for the hope of life everlasting, through the all sufficient merits of Jesus, my adorable Redeemer. Refresh me, I beseech thee, O God by this night's repose, and grant that I may with renewed vigor in the morning go on my way rejoicing, obeying thy commandments and abstaining from sin, as an abomination that may expose me to thy terrors. Now, I pray thee, receive me under thy protection.—Let thy favor rest upon me through this night, so shall I be safe, although I rise not from this couch, for thy powerful hand will save me from the second death, through Jesus Christ, blessed for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Spirit of Devotion.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God Almighty. The whole earth is filled with thy glory. Thou givest us line upon line, and precept upon precept; here a little, and there a little, that all may know thee, from the least to the greatest. The heavens declare thy glory, and the firmament sheweth

forth thine handy works. The whole creation is dependant on thy providence; and thou givest to all thy creatures their meat in due season. I thank thee, Lord, that thou hast formed my body, as an instrument well strung, to shew forth thy praise, and hast given me faculties and capacities to rejoice in the God of my salvation—that thou hast made my happiness to consist in my duty—in not being slothful, but diligent in business and fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; as according to thy word, without holiness, no man shall see God. Do thou therefore, God of my spirit, and source of gracious influence, grant me the teachings of thy grace to make me wise unto salvation—that I may honor thee with my body and spirit, which are thine. Erase from my heart every disposition to lay up treasures on earth, where moth and rust do corrupt, and where theives break through and steal; and enable me to lay up for myself treasures in heaven, which neither moth nor rust, can corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal. Teach me O Lord, the inestimable value of the immortal soul—its proneness to sin; and instruct me in the duties that will advance its eternal interests.

Excite in me the graces of thy spirit, and cause me to discern the things that belong to my peace, before they are forever hidden from mine eyes—that to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace; yea, that were I to gain the whole world and loose my soul, I would be poor indeed; for eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered

in the heart of man to conceive the glory which God hath prepared for them that love him.

O instruct me to will and to do of thy good pleasure, the things that may promote my temporal and eternal welfare; for whom have I in heaven but thee, and there is none on this earth whom I desire besides thee; when my heart and my strength faileth me, then thou art my strength and my portion forever.

O increase and strengthen my zeal to serve and obey thee, according to the ways of thine own appointment; and grant that whatsoever I do: whether I eat or drink, all may be done to thy glory. Write thy law upon my heart, and guide me, by thy power and the influence of thy spirit. Quicken me, I beseech thee, in the ways of righteousness and delight my soul with the beauties of holiness. Revive my dying graces. Create in me a clean heart, O Lord, and renew a right spirit within me. May it be my meat and drink, to do the will of my Father, that is in heaven. Search me, O Lord, and try me, and see if there be any evil way in me, and lead me in the way that is everlasting. O teach me thy will and grant me grace and strength to do it.—Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquities and cleanse me from my sins. Enable me to dedicate my powers and faculties to thy service, that thus I may become qualified to walk in thy statutes, blameless. O speak peace to my soul, and grant me the cheering consolation that thou wilt not leave, nor forsake me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy spirit from me. O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth will shew forth thy praise. Let not

Satan have dominion over me, nor suffer me to fall under the power of my spiritual foes. In every temptation, in which I may be brought, O provide thou for me a way of escape. In weakness, be thou my strength, in danger the rock of my defence, and in distress, my hope and comfort. Bless, good Lord, all my humble efforts to serve thee in an acceptable manner.—Make me ever mindful that thou art a spirit, and that all who worship thee, must worship thee, in spirit and in truth. Blessed Jesus, my adorable and compassionate Redeemer, clothe thou, I beseech thee, my nakedness, with the mantle of thy righteousness, and wash away the stains of my manifold trespasses and sins, by the virtues of thy precious blood, which speaketh better things, than the blood of Abel. Hear and accept these, my humble petitions, O Lord; and the praise, honor, and glory be to the Father, Son and blessed Spirit, my Triune God, forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer under Loss and Disaster.

God of all the earth! Thou art the Holy One of Israel—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—the father of the fatherless, and the widow's God. Thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth. Encouraged by the manifold displays of thy loving kindness, and tender mercies to the children of men, and particularly to those who have sought thy face in the ways of thine own appointment, thy unworthy servant would, un-

der his present loss, bow himself before the throne of thy mercy, and implore the consolations of thy spirit, to cheer and comfort him in the distress he how suffers. Thou hast visited him with thy chastising rod. Thou hast deprived him of part of that bounty, which he has received from thy providential hand, and he has become troubled and disconsolate, because thou has shewn him thy displeasure, and subjected him to loss and grief in this respect. Visit him now, O Lord, I beseech thee, with the cheering influences of thy gospel. Enable him first to seek the kingdom of God, and the righteousness thereof, under the assurance that all other needful things will be added thereto; Yea, console him with thy comfortable word, that thou wilt not forsake the righteous, and that thou wilt preserve his seed from begging bread.

Teach me, O Lord to consider, that trouble cometh not from the ground, nor affliction from the dust, but are under thy Fatherly care and direction—that whom the Lord loveth, he chastiseth—and that as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth all them that fear him.—Learn me, gracious God, to reflect that known unto thee are all my ways—that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Heavenly Father O sanctify these meditations to me, at this time; and grant that I may be still and know that thou art the Lord–that thou doest according to thy sovereign will and pleasure in the armies of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth, and there is none can stay thy hand, or say unto thee, what doest thou. May I, with the resignation of the man of Uz, say: the

Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away—blessed be the name of the Lord; yea, may I with great sincerity exclaim: the cup which my heavenly Father has given me, although bitter, shall I not drink it. If consistent with thy will and my own welfare, bless my efforts. Grant me that share of temporal things, which may be for thy glory and my present and eternal good; for thy blessing alone makethrich and addeth no sorrow: so shall I go on my way rejoicing, giving glory to thee, and animated with the consoling hope, that these light afflictions, which are but for a moment, will work out for me a far more exceeding, even an eternal weight of glory. Remove far from me, I beseech thee, vanity and lies; give me neither poverty nor riches: feed me with food convenient for me, lest I be full and deny thee, and say who is the Lord, or lest I be poor and steal and take the name of my God in vain. Now Lord, what wait I for.—Blot out, I entreat thee, the transgressions of thine unworthy servant, from the book of thy remembrance, and left upon him the light of thy reconciled countenance and bless him; and thine shall be the praise and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer under Trouble and Dejection of Mind.

O MOST blessed and gracious God! Look down, I beseech thee, on thine unworthy servant, now before thee, imploring thy favor and acceptance, with that pity, which thou condescend-

est to shew to disconsolate and mourning sinners. Behold, Lord, the load of misery and oppression, I feel within me, but am not able to express. Thine angry billows have gone over me, and my soul has become harrassed and perplexed with tormenting doubts and fears, so that I go mourning all the day long—musing in silent meditation: "hath the Lord forgotten to be gracious? hath he shut up his tender bowels of mercy against me forever?" Unto thee do I cry for help, O thou great physician both of of body and soul. The spirit of a man may sustain his infirmity, but a wounded spirit who, but thee, O God, can heal.

Thou hast given me a breathing in thine air, and a standing on thine earth, and created me with powers and faculties, organized to shew forth thy praise; grant me, therefore, I pray thee, O Lord, a disposition and capacity to exercise them to thy glory. As thou hast made and created me, and not I myself, my service is thy due; and hence I desire not to live for the gratification of my own carnal propensities, but the honor of God, my Creator and Benefactor. Draw near to me then I beseech thee, O Lord, with the influence of thy word and spirit, and speak of peace to my disconsolate heart. Surely the bruised reed, thou wilt not break—the smoking flax, thou wilt not quench. Thou art my rock and fortress. To thee would I go in this tribulation, O thou Holy One of Israel, for the supply of all my wants from the abundant fulness of thy grace, which is treasured up in Jesus, the son of thy love, and the compassionate friend of sinners; for to whom else should I go, but to thee, believing that thou

hast the keys of life and death. O uphold and comfort my weak and dejected spirit; strengthen it against all inordinate, vain fears and terrors. Thou alone canst relieve me; therefore unto thee do I cry for succor. O hear my most earnest supplication, and make me to possess an easy, cheerful, quiet spirit. My trust is in thee, the refuge of the distressed in all ages. And, blessed be thy name, thou hast revealed thyself as a God in covenant with thy people; for at no time hast thou said to the House of Jacob; You seek my face in vain. Will the Lord then be graciously pleased to calm my perturbed spirit —to allay the surges of my mind, and dispel those gloomy doubts and fears, which destroy my present peace and future hopes. O satisfy me with the joys which are peculiar to the people of God —to those who delight in thy statutes and commandments, to do them—that, like them, I may be enabled, with the eyes of faith, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and enquire of him in his earthly courts—that, like them, I may go on my way rejoicing, under the light of thy reconciled countenance, resting on the God of my fathers, as the only satisfying portion of the immortal spirit. O let my soul no longer mourn an absent God; for truly, thou art ever with me, although I see thee not. Be thou on my right hand and my left, that I be not moved. Enable me to watch and pray, that I fall not into temptation. Suffer not Satan, who goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, to have dominion over me, or tempt me from my duties to thee, who art entitled to my entire devotion and undivided regard. Cause me to consider that

the wages of sin are death; and O help me to detest it, as obnoxious to a pure and holy God — Let not the enemies of my salvation prevail against me; and O, preserve me from hardness of heart, from want of confidence in thee, and above all, from the horrors of despair, that leads to never ending woe. But grant, gracious Lord, that my meditations of thee and of thy consoling word, may be sweet and frequent. Admonish me, in every time of need, by thy spirit: why art thou cast down, O my soul! and why art thou disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God; yea, remind me of the precious redemption procured for the contrite believer, by the atoning sacrifice of a crucified Saviour— a redemption full and free; that whosoever believeth in the Lord Jesus, shall not perish, but have everlasting life. Come then, blessed Saviour, come quickly, and apply to my wounded spirit the blood of sprinkling, that thy servant may henceforth live to thy glory. Thou hast assured me, in thy gospel, that thou hast no pleasure in the death of a sinner, but would rather that he repent and live. Lord I repent in dust and ashes. O save thy servant from destruction, and my tongue shall speak of thy praise, and my soul rejoice in the God of my salvation, all the day long. Thou alone canst give me the victory over all my spiritual foes; therefore would I ascribe unto thee, boundless dominion, and glory and majesty, forever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a Woman under the pains of Child-Birth.

O Lord God of all comfort and mercy! who art the refuge of the distressed and the help of all them that depend upon thee. We humbly offer, at the throne of thy majesty, our supplications for thy handmaid, who is in great pain and misery. Deliver, we beseech thee, her soul from death, her eyes from tears, and her feet from from falling. Sooth her anguish, mitigate her pains and distresses of body and mind, and give her sufficient strength to sustain the conflicts she endures. Cause her, speedily, to bring forth the fruit of her womb; and make her to experience joy and gladness, that the bones, which thou hast bruised, may rejoice. Restore unto her, O Lord, the joys of thy salvation, and uphold her with thy free spirit. Deliver her from this great affliction, and her tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. Inspire her, in this trying hour, with that courage which assures her, that the grace of her dear Redeemer is sufficient for her, and that his strength shall be made perfect in her weakness. Endue her with patience and resignation to thy holy will, on the event of this providence; and give her the cheering consolations that flow from the precious promises of the blessed gospel, as her final hope and portion, through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world. O cleanse her from all her sins, by the virtues of his precious blood; and, for his name's sake, lift thou upon her, O Lord, the light of

thy reconciled countenance, and graciously accept of these our petitions, on her behalf, alone for the merits of our adorable Redeemer; to whom we would now, and at all times, ascribe all glory and praise. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Grace and Assistance for a woman after delivery but still in danger.

O FATHER of Mercies and gracious Lord, our God! We thank thee, that thou hast supported thine handmaid, in her low estate, and by thy power sustained her in her weakness. Perfect, O Lord, that deliverance to her, which thou hast most graciously begun; and let her not be lost, after the wonders thou hast already done for her. Continue her patience and humble dependance on thee, under the pains and accidents to which she is exposed. Support her spirits; and raise her up again, in due time. Thy mercy and power are still the same, and will be the same forever. O let them still be shewn for her recovery, as they have been already for her delivery—Let them be shown upon her that she may praise thee more and more. Dispose her to humble resignation to the allotments of thy providence; that whether living, or dying, she may rely on thee, as her everlasting portion.—Should thou be graciously pleased to renew her health, O may her grateful heart, henceforth acknowledge this, thy goodness to her, in all her ways; but shouldest thou otherwise determine, animate her, O Lord, we beseech thee, with the

consoling prospects of the blessed gospel of peace, and especially with the triumphant hope, that when her earthly house of this tabernacle shall be dissolved, she has a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

In the mean time grant, gracious Lord, that she may repose herself and all that concerns her, with cheerful submission on the tender mercies of her compassionate Redeemer, the friend of all who are wearied and heavy laden, to whom he has promised rest—remembering that he has been her help and support thus far. And finally, may she give him all praise and glory, henceforth, and forever, and this our prayer be favorably received by our heavenly Father, through Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for Preservation in Child-Bearing.

O Heavenly Father! we give thee most humble and hearty thanks, for thy goodness to thine handmaiden. Thou hast mercifully appeared for her, and preserved her through the painful hour of child-birth, & made her the living mother (of a living child.) Perfect thy mercy, in the entire renewal of her health and strength. And being delivered from her fears and dangers, may she manifest the gratitude of her heart, by the piety of her life and conversation. The pangs of death compassed her, and she found trouble and sorrow; but, blessed be thy name,

thou hast graciously assuaged her pains, and turned her sorrows into joys. Lord we will ever adore and magnify thy mercy, which has dealt so lovingly with her, and praise thy name and faithfulness, which have not suffered her hopes to fail. May both the root and the branches be long spared to one another, and to the world.—May thy servants be enabled to bring up their children in the fear of God, to their mutual joy and rejoicing, in the great day of the Lord Jesus; and O may we then be judged worthy partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light, for his name's sake. *Amen.*

A Prayer on going a Journey.

We desire, O Lord, to recommend to thy particular care and protection those of us, who are going a journey. Encouraged by our past experience of thy watchful providence, and comforted with the thoughts of thine universal presence, we commit our way unto thee, O Lord, begging, that thou wouldest direct our paths.—If thy favorable presence go not with us, take us not hence, but let us abide even, where we are now. O be thou with us, in the way which we go. Keep us from every evil to which we may be exposed. Let the guardian angel of thy presence defend us from all disasters, dangers, and terrors, from sad accidents and sins. May our health be improved, and comforts enlarged O be thou ever present, to help us in all times of need and danger. May we have a con-

stant sense of thy presence upon our minds, that we may never be off our guard. May we always behave in a proper and becoming manner, and so find favor in every place to which we go.

We would learn to look upon our lives, as a journey towards our everlasting settlement, in an unchangeable state. O Guide us through this state of trial, by thy counsel; and, at last, receive us into thy kingdom of glory.

Watch over our habitation, O Lord, in our absence, we beseech thee, by night and by day. Save it from devouring flames, from the designs and attempts of wicked men, and from every kind of harm. Be gracious to those we leave behind. May they be preserved by thee in health, peace, and comfort. And may we have a happy meeting, upon our return home, in due time, in all the circumstances of health, safety, peace, and enjoyment; and thine shall be the glory, and the praise forever. *Amen.*

Prayer for a Sick Person, or Family.

Be merciful, O Lord, to this family, into which thou hast permitted sickness to enter.—Graciously support thy servant, under thine afflicting hand. Keep him from murmuring under this dispensation of thy providence, and to be still and consider, that his present suffering is of the Lord, who trieth the reins of the children of men, and doest according to his sovereign will and pleasure in all places of his uni-

versal dominion. O may the fruit of this affliction be to lead his soul to the contemplation of the vanity of earthly possessions, and to fix it, supremely, on thee, who art the hope of all the ends of the earth. May the firm purpose of his mind be: "*although thou* slay me, yet *will I put my trust in thee.*" Teach him to reflect, that not a hair can fall from his head, without the will of his heavenly Father—that whom the Lord loved, he chastiseth, and that, not without much tribulation, can he become an expectant of the happiness of the saints in light; yea, teach him to consider, that these momemtary pangs of bodily disease, are not to be compared, with the weight of glory, which God has in store, for them who love and fear him. Sanctify then, O our Father, who art in heaven, this amiction to thy servant. May it prove to him the savor of life, unto life, and not of death, unto death. May we all learn holiness from the sufferings of this present life. May we glory in affliction, if we can but win Christ; for, truly, then, will death be to us great gain. In the mean time, with humble submission to thy will, we pray thee. O Lord, to direct and bless the means, for the relief of thy servant, now before thee, and that thou wilt be graciously pleased to abate his languishing disorder, and restore him to health and usefulness.

May those of us, who enjoy health, take care to improve the happy opportunity, of preparing for the time of sickness, the hour of death, and the commencement of a glorious immortality, that in our last moments, we may look back upon a well-spent life, with comfort, and have the

wellgrounded hopes and prospects of everlasting happiness, through the merits of a crucified Saviour, who suffered the pains of the cross that he might redeem us from sin and wretchedness, and introduce us to the liberty of the children of God and who is worthy of all praise and honor and glory, forever more.—*Amen.*

Thanksgiving for a safe return from a Journey.

O Lord, my Heavenly Father, I would at this time acknowledge thee, as the Author of all my comforts and enjoyments, and as the Giver of every good and perfect gift. I thank thee, that thou hast sustained me in health and comfort, in my late journey, and permitted me to return in safety to my habitation, and to meet my friends in peace and contentment.

With gratitude I acknowledge, that thou hast kindly conducted me in my journey, and made my out-going and in-coming to rejoice—that thou hast preserved me from the evils and dangers to which I were exposed; and hath enabled me to return to my friends with health and comfort. Truly, thou art the health of my countenance and my God. May a sense of my constant dependance on thee, and of thy goodness to me, be ever present to my mind, to keep me humble and watchful that I may not dare to offend so good a God, as thou hast been to me; but may every day resign myself to thy disposal, with the devoted confidence, that thou carest for

me, and will make all things work together for my good.

May a sense of my constant dependance on thee, teach me resignation to thy will, in all the allotments of thy providence, and be still and reflect that thou art God and that thy ways are not as my ways, nor thy thoughts as my thoughts; and thus be making happy advances in a divine life; so as to obtain thine heavenly kingdom; where I shall go no more out, nor come no more in—where there shall be no lion in my path, nor danger in my way, but thou, the God of my salvation, be a satisfying portion for my soul forever; to whom be everlasting praises. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Head of a Family, when dangerously ill.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thou art the help of all who put their trust in thee. We bow before thee at this time, to offer up our humble petitions, on the behalf of thy servant, on the bed of sickness.—Look down upon him with an eye of compassion—pity his frailties and infirmaties. Be gracious unto him, according to to necessity of his case, and according to the multitude of thy tender mercies in Christ Jesus.

We beseech thee, O Lord, to abate his distemper—ease his pain—add to his bodily comfort, and bless the means which are imployed for his recovery. Paul may plant and Apollos water, but God only giveth the increase. O

thou great Physician of soul and body, if it be consistent with thy providence, renew his health and strength and restore him to his usefulness, to his family and all around him; that he may give thee the greater praise, and shew thee a more perfect obedience, in his future life. We pray, with thy permission, that his life and health may be precious in thy sight, and that he may continue yet many days, to be a comfort to himself, and his friends, and a blessing to the world.

O be thou to him, an all sufficient portion on the bed of sickness. Supply all his wants from thine abundant fulness. And although thou mayest be pleased to deprive him of his temporal enjoyments, such as health and the joys of social life, thou knowest to turn them to his best advantage, and to supply the loss of whatever thou takest away. Whatever thou deniest, O deny him not an interest in thy favor and love; for thy favor is life, & thy loving kindness is better, than life Be unto him a reconciled father, through the tender mercies of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Pardon his sins, and especially those, which he most laments. Be the support of his life and the relief of his soul, under all his present pains, afflictions and troubles O cause him to reflect that as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth all them who fear him. Impress his mind then with a disposition to will and to do of thy good pleasure. Teach him to bow, with submission, to the chastisements of thy hand; saying, Father, not my will, but thine be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Enable him to seek first the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof, that

all other things may be added thereto. So that if thy servant continues to live, he may live unto the Lord, or if thou shouldest think fit to call him hence, he may die unto the Lord; that whether living or dying, he may be the Lord's.

From all the visitations of thy providence may we learn the instability of all our worldly enjoyments & comforts. May we remember, that they will one day fail us that either they will be taken from us, or we must leave them behind us—but that there is, notwithstanding, a firm foundation of hope & comfort to every sincere disciple of Jesus. Thou hast promised, thou wilt never leave nor forsake those who, in the way of d[illegible], put their trust and confidence in thee. We will therefore hope in thy mercy, that we shall yet praise thee, in the land of the living, for thou art the health of our countenance, and our God.

Help us, O Lord, to sit loose to this world, and to the enjoyments of it, and to delight ourselves more in God, and in heavenly objects.—Let us not think ourselves unhappy, whilst we can enjoy thee, nor murmur or repine at any loss, so long as we are the objects of thy love, and the care of thy good providence.

And, O do thou give us grace so to live, that we may comfortably look up to thee at all times, as our constant friend and most tender father, as our life and health, our rest and joy, through Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Prayer for one at the Point of Death.

GREAT God! thou livest for ever; but we are all of us dying creatures, and our breath is in thine hands.

We would bless thy name, for our preserved lives, and for all the supports and comforts of them, so long continued to us. Thou hast been kind and gracious to us all, through the whole of our past life; and whenever thou hast afflicted us, thou hast also been our support and deliverer: we are therefore encouraged to trust in thy tried mercy, and to commit ourselves to thy disposal.

We would, particularly at this time, recommend to thy compassionate regards, thy servant before thee. O be thou his *(her)* rock, and refuge, his support and comfort; lay no more upon him, than thou wilt enable him to bear; put underneath him thine everlasting arms; say unto his soul, thou art his God; strengthen his faith in the promises; his hopes of thy favor and love, and the delightful prospects of a happy immortality. O give him ease of body, as well as comfort in his mind; that the passage from this, to a better world, may be smooth as well as safe.—Illuminate the dark passage of the valley of the shadow of death, with thine own cheering presence, if thou hast determined to call him hence. May thy rod and staff sustain him in his conflicts with the messenger of death; and may he at last depart in the well-grounded persuasion, that when he is absent from the body, he shall be present with the Lord; yea, may Jesus, who is

the resurrection and the life, at this critical period of his earthly career, when he is on the verge of exchanging worlds, be all his salvation and all his hope; and may he enjoy the animating prospect, that the blood of sprinkling hath rendered him a meet partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light.

Help us all, O God, to prepare for our long home; that, when it shall be our turn to die, we may go out of this life without confusion, or fear, depart in peace, sleep in Jesus; and find our souls safe in the Redeemer's arms.

All which we humbly beg, in the name and as the disciples of our ascended Lord, who sitteth at the right hand of God, to make intercession for us, glorious in holiness, and blessed forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a good Man, under the Apprehensions of his Death.

Almighty and most merciful father! Thou art a God all-sufficient, possessed of every perfection proper to engage our love, and to encourage our confidence.

We can be in no circumstances of distress, in which thou art not able to support, or to deliver us. Thou knowest every pain we feel, and every anxious thought which oppresseth us. And thy goodness never faileth. Thou art a present help in every time of our need.

Grant, O most merciful father, that a steady persuasion of thine infinite wisdom, power, and

goodness, may dispose us to place an entire trust and confidence in thee, at all times, and under all circumstances.

We are sensible, that nothing befalleth us, but under thine appointment or permission, and that thou never orderest any thing, but what is absolutely for the best. We desire, therefore, to submit ourselves absolutely to thy will, and to acquiesce in all the dispensations of thy providence concerning us.

We praise thee, that thou hast encouraged us to fly unto thee, in all our distresses, and, in every thing, by prayer and supplication, to make our requests known unto thee. We address thee, at this time, on the behalf of thine afflicted servant, before thee. Pardon, O Lord, his sins, and speak peace to his soul. May a humble consciousness of his own integrity, a well grounded sense of thy favor, and the firm hope of everlasting happiness, enable him to bear up under his present affliction, with Christian fortitude and patience. May he now experience those consolations, which religion naturally yields to good men, under the darkest circumstances. May he place his confidence in thee, the almighty and eternal God; and find in thee an effectual support, under all his pains and apprehensions.

Strengthen his faith in thee, and in thy sovereign goodness. May he regard his affliction, as the chastening of a tender father, intended for his benefit. O may it confirm his faith, patience and resignation to the will of heaven. May it wean his affections more and more from earthly things, and engage him to raise his desires and hopes to the eternal happiness of a better world.

We are sensible, O Lord, that we are ill-qualified to judge, what is best for ourselves, or for one another, whether health or sickness, life or death. But it is our highest happiness, that all our affairs are determined by thee; and it is our greatest wisdom, to acquiesce cheerfully in all thine appointments. With that deference, therefore to thine infinite wisdom and goodness, which becomes us, we pray, that thou wouldest ease the pains of thy servant, rebuke his disorder, and restore him to health, to the comfortable enjoyment of life, and to his family and friends. If it be thy blessed will, grant that he may still live, to be useful, and to glorify thy name.

But, if thou seest it will be best for him to order otherwise concerning him, O grant, that while he lives, he may live to thy glory, and that, when he dies, he may die in thy favor; yea, may he die the death of the righteous and his latter end be like his.

In the mean time we pray thee, O Lord, to keep him in a comfortable frame of mind. Fortify him against the fears of death, and enable him to expect his dissolution, with that constancy of mind, and that pious resignation, which becomes a Christian. Help him to regard death, as nothing else, to a good man, but a passage out of a world of guilt, and fear, and sorrow, into a state of eternal peace and unspeakable felicity. In this light, may he view it approaching towards him, without terror or disturbance. And when he walketh through the valley of the shadow of death, be thou, O God, his strength and support.

And grant, O most merciful father, that, whenever it shall please thee to remove him out of

this world, he may be received to thy presence, where there is fullness of joy, and be placed at thy right hand, where there are pleasures forever more.

All we humbly ask, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord in whom thou art reconciling the world unto thyself, and by whom thou hast abolished death, not imputing unto men their trespasses and sins.

Now unto him, who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of his glory, with exceeding joy—to the only wise God, be honor, and majesty, dominion, and power, both now and forever more. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a sick Person, when there are good Hopes of his Recovery.

O FATHER of mercies, and God of all comfort! The wise disposer of all events! We have reason to rejoice in thy government, even when our circumstances appear most gloomy and discouraging.

We know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that in faithfulness thou dost afflict us. Thou dost not willingly grieve the children of men; but chastenest us for our profit, to make us partakers of thy holiness. Thou hast no pleasure in our pains and distresses; but thou usest them as medicines, to cure the diseases of the mind.

Thou encouragest us to call upon thee, in the

day of trouble, and to pray for one another in the time of sickness, or any other adversity.—Relying, therefore, on thy fatherly goodness, we humbly approach thy sacred presence, to offer up our prayers on the behalf of thy servant under thine afflicting hand. O look down with an eye of love and compassion. Draw near to him *(or her)* in mercy. Visit him with thy salvation.

We know, O Lord, that sickness and health are at thy disposal. Thou bringest low, and thou raisest up again. We, who are here before thee, have had large experience of thy goodness, and desire now to acknowledge our constant and necessary dependence upon thee, and our innumerable obligations unto thee.

In a particular manner, would we bless thee for thy kindness, to thy servant before thee—that thou hast heard the voice of our supplications, and our earnest request for his ease and comfort. O accept also of his and our thankful acknowledgements on his account. Thou art our life, and the length of our days. To thy goodness we owe it, that this sickness has not been unto death, and that instead of weeping, we are rejoicing before thee. What shall we render unto thee, O Lord, for all thy benefits towards us?

O Lord, make thy face to shine upon thy servant, and visit him with heavenly consolations. Fill him with comfortable thoughts of thy love to his soul, and of that tender compassionate care, which thou art pleased to take of thine afflicted creatures. And from his own experience of thy goodness, may he learn to place an entire

trust and confidence in thy mercy at all times, a cheerful resignation to thy will, and a lively grateful sense of his obligations to thee. Give him a thankful heart, and let it be his firm purpose of soul, that the life thou sparest shall be devoted to thyself, and to thy service.

Blessed be God for the prospect of his recovery! O perfect, we intreat thee, the kindness which thou hast so graciously begun. Repair the decays of nature. Direct to the most successful means of establishing his health, and strengthening his constitution, that the remainder of life may be comfortable to himself, and useful to all about him.

We beg for him and for ourselves, that we may frequently consider, the uncertainty of all we enjoy here below; that our health—our lives—our friends—and every earthly comfort are fleeting and unsatisfactory—And O may we rejoice continually in the well grounded hope, that there does remain a certain rest for the people of God, prepared by Jesus Christ, for all his faithful followers.

With this holy joy, may we look forward to the great and glorious day of his appearing—when these feebly dying bodies, now subject to pains, and sicknesses, and sorrows, shall be raised up, in power, in glory, and in incorruption.

And now unto thee, our merciful father in Jesus Christ, would we cheerfully and thankfully ascribe all honor and glory, thanksgiving and praise, now and forever more. *Amen.*

A Prayer, when the Head of a Family seems past hope of recovery.

O LORD God. Thou art the only hope of the deciple of Jesus Christ & the only satisfying portion of the immortal soul, and the more especially in its seperation from the body. We beseech thee, graciously to look upon thy servant, the head of this family, who appears to be near the confines of eternity. O Lord, support and comfort him in the closing scene of life. Lay underneath him the almighty arm of support and consolation. Thou canst ease the dying bed. Thou canst illum'nate the dark valley of of the shadow of death. Thou canst give him inward comforts, and the glorious prospect into life eternal. Thou canst render the passage to that happy state not only safe, but as easy as may be. O may death appear to him a friendly messenger, to introduce his soul into the mansions of bliss. Be thou his strong stay and support, while in this world and his eternal portion and happiness, in that which is to come.—That, whenever thou art pleased to remove him hence, he may dwell with thee in glory everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Children (or Child) of the Family.

O LORD our God! We would beg thy particular favor and goodness to the children (or child) of this family. Make them all thy children, and be thou their Father and their God. While we, Lord, as their parents, would be mindful of our vows to thee, on their baptism: to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, O. incline their hearts to come in aid of our duties, by dedicating themselves to the Lord, and walking in thine ordinances, blameless. O pour out thy spirit upon them, and thy blessing upon our offspring. To the protection and guidance—to the direction and disposal of that Almighty Being, to whom we have already dedicated them, we now humbly and earnestly recommend them. Open their minds to instruction. Give them teachable tempers, and an aptness to learn the things that be of God. O take possession of their hearts, and season their tender years with thy heavenly grace—with wisdom from above—and with religious fortitude. Arm them against every temtation, which might otherwise prove too hard for their virtue.

Thou, O Lord, knowest the weakness of human virtue, and, in particular, the temptations which surround the young—from their want of experience—and from the strength of their passions. Thou knowest, how easily they are seduced by flattery—by pride—by vain hopes; and how unwilling they are to believe, what is

contrary to their own inclinations and desires.

We would therefore, the more earestly implore thy blessing upon our endeavors to season their minds with a religious sense of thee, their Creator, of their duty to thee, and of that good, in which alone true happiness consists. Help us, O Lord, to train them up in thy fear. Endue us, with wisdom and prudence, that we may give them seasonable instructions, and set them good examples. May we go before them in piety—humility—in devout conversation—and virtuous behaviour; so governing our own passions, that we may neither embolden them to do evil, by too much indulgence, nor discourage them in their duty, by too much severity.

O may they never become the companions of fools, nor enter into the paths of the destroyer! Direct us in every part of their education—in the choice of those studies—employments,—and stations of life, whereby they will be most happy in themselves, and most useful to society.—Let a kind providence accompany, guard, and direct them through life May we have the comfort of seeing them behave wisely and well—and, when we leave the world, may we have a well grounded hope of their comfort here, and of their happiness hereafter.—All we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A shorter Prayer for the Children of the Family.

O LORD, bless our dear children (or child). May they be the children of the living God, growing blessings and comforts to us, and, in due time, useful members of society. O merciful Father! Form their minds to virtue and to piety. Direct—assist—succeed us in their education; and may they grow daily in stature, and in favor with God and man. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Servants of the Family.

O LORD, we would at this time appear before thee and acknowledge the vanity of all earthly possessions, and would call to mind, that the fashions of this world are daily passing away; and that the grave will soon level all distinctions between high and low, rich and poor, bond and free and master and servant. May we then, demean ourselves to the servants, under our care and keeping, with that Christian charity and benevolence which becometh the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, with the assurance that thou, Lord, art no respecter of persons.

Teach us to treat the servants in our family, with a spirit of forbearance, acknowledging them as fellow mortals and candidates for immortality—to overlook and forgive their minor trespasses, as we hope that our Heavenly Father will forgive our trespasses. May we con-

sider it our duty to instruct them in thy word and ordinances; and to teach them the way of salvation through the merits of a crucified Redeemer. O that the servants in this family, may all of them be the servants of thee, the living God! May they be faithful in their duty to us, and may they be rewarded for their fidelity by thee, who art the Great Master in heaven, as well as theirs; and to whom both we and they must be accountable. Gracious God! Assist us to do our duty to them—and them to do their's to us; that thus we may be useful and comfortable to one another in this world, and all meet in heaven at last, to be happy together to all eternity, and unite in hallalujahs of praise to our God forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for our Aged and Infirm Parents, or Friends.

Great God, and Heavenly Father! Look down with peculiar favor and kindness upon our aged parents (or friends). Suit thy mercies to their circumstances. Have compassion upon their infirmities, and help them in all their weaknesses, difficulties, and distresses. Cast them not away, O Lord, in their old age. Forsake them not, when their strength faileth. Remember not against them former iniquities; but according to thy mercy remember them, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord

Give them heavenly wisdom. Pour abundance of thy grace upon them, that their hoary

heads may be found in the way of righteousness, and their souls be precious in thy sight. O let goodness and mercy follow them, the remainder of their days. Let their last days be their best days—and their last comforts their strongest and sweetest comforts. And, when heart and flesh, and all their powers shall fail them, be thou, O God, the strength of their hearts, their support—and their portion, forever, for the sake, alone, of our exalted and glorious Redeemer. *Amen.*

A Prayer when a sick Person wants Sleep.

O MOST gracious God! Thy mercies in Christ Jesus surpass all our thoughts; nor are we able to number the blessing thou art continually bestowing upon us. How much do we owe to thee, for the quiet sleep of but one night! And how thankful ought we to be for this single blessing, so constantly imparted to us! Praised be thy name, that, when we would close our eyes in sleep, we are not held waking!—Pardon, good God, our ingratitude for this, and our many other undeserved, and misimproved mercies.

Look down with tender compassion on thine afflicted servant, whose case we would bear upon our hearts at thy mercy-seat. Renew his wasted spirits with comfortable sleep. Refresh, compose him to a sweet and undisturbed rest. Refresh him so sensibly, as to enable him affectionately, to acknowledge thy goodness to

him in this respect. O may he again enjoy the comfort of rest and balmy sleep.

But, if thou see fit to deny or delay the blessing, give him patience, and grant, that in the multitude of his thoughts within him, thy comforts may delight his soul. If he be still tossed upon a wearisome bed, O grant that his mind may repose itself in thy love, and feel sensible consolation from heaven, not only quieting, but greatly rejoicing his heart.

Preserve, good God, the use of his understanding. Let the enemy have no advantage against him; but enable him to say, I will wait patiently for the Lord, till he incline his ear unto me, and hear my cry. O spare him, that, he may recover strength, before he go hence, and be no more! And he will henceforth strive to live with new devotedness to Father, Son and Holy Spirit, blessed forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a sick Person when in Danger.

O ALMIGHTY God and most Merciful Father! we would now recommend to thy goodness, thy servant, under a threatening, painful disorder. Thou art a God of all power, and everlasting mercy. All diseases are at thy command; and thy compassions fail not. O, if it were thy will, speak the word, and thy servant should even yet be healed. But, if thou hast otherwise determined—if this sickness is unto death, may thy servant be prepared to give himself up into thy hands, with Christian patience and for-

titude, in joyful expectation of thy mercy unto eternal life. May the testimony of a good conscience, and the hope of thy favor, support him in that awful moment. May he leave the world in peace, and be received into thine heavenly kingdom. Fit him, O Lord, and all concerned for thy holy will. Support his spirits with a firm, well grounded, cheerful hope and trust in God—in thy power, providence, and goodness. Inspire him with a lively faith in the precious promises of the gospel. Give him joy in believing. And let comfortable reflections, and glorious prospects, be continually present to his soul, under his trials. Illuminate the dark valley of the shadow of death with thine own almighty presence. May he depart with a well-grounded persuasion, that, when absent from the body, he shall be present with the Lord.—Guard him through the passage, and bring him safe to thine eternal kingdom and glory; through Jesus Christ his Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be read in the Presence of a sick Person.

We bow ourselves before thee, O Lord of heaven and earth, acknowledging, that we are but dust, and very unworthy to speak unto thee, either for ourselves, or for others.

When we consider thy infinite wisdom, power, and goodness,—our own folly, weakness, and unworthiness—and our vast distance from thee, with great humility we desire to confess,

that we are as nothing, and vanity. But thy condescending grace and goodness encourage our approaches to the throne of mercy with hope and confidence, to solicit thy favor, both for ourselves, and for our friends.

We would, therefore, in a particular manner, at this time, implore thy tender compassion upon thy sick servant, (who desires our prayers) O gracious God! Look down with pity upon him, in his weak condition. Comfort and Support him under thine afflicting hand. Work in him true repentance for all the sins he hath committed against thee in thought, word, and deed. Give him a lively and steadfast faith in Jesus Christ. Fill him with a reviving hope of that immortal life, which Jesus hath purchased and promised; and with a powerful sense of thy fatherly love and tender care over him, in the most afflicted condition. Bestow upon him thy heavenly supports, and comforts from above; give him patience and submission to thy holy will, during this visitation.

We know there is nothing impossible with thee. If thou wilt, thou canst raise him up, and and grant him a longer continuance in this world. O that it may be thy gracious pleasure to restore him to us! May it please thee to save him and deliver him, for thy goodness sake, O Lord! Direct and bless the means, that may be made use of, and make them effectual. Command the disease to fly away, by thy almighty word, that he may be restored to health and usefulness again. And in the mean time, help him with meekness to resign himself to thy disposals, and quietly to wait for ease and comfort, here—

or for everlasting rest and happiness, in a future state at last, through Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, and worthy of all honor, praise and glory now and forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be used by a Person Aged or Infirm.

O LORD God! Look graciously upon thine aged servant, whose hope is only in thy mercy —O thou, by whom my life has been so long preserved, and who art able to make me eternally blessed. I thank thee for Jesus Christ thy Son, through whom there is such solid and stedfast ground of hope, to support and strengthen my heart, when the comforts of this life fail me. I bless and praise thy bounteous goodness, for the innumerable blessings which thou hast bestowed upon me, from time to time, and all along through life, to this present moment.

O my God! May thy goodness still be continued to me, to be my constant support and encouragement, when the days come, in which I may say, I have no pleasure in them. Then may the remembrance of all thy past favors and loving kindness to me, accompanied with a well grounded hope of thy endless love in a future world, raise me above a too fond attachment to this uncertain state, and to the things and persons here below. The more my outward senses decay, vouchsafe the quicker and more lively sense of thy favor, and love to my soul; and as my day is, so may my strength be. O pre-

serve me from all discontent, impatience, and fretfulness of temper—from covetousness, suspicion, and narrowness of spirit. May I be an example of cheerful piety, religious fortitude, and persevering gratitude—May my mind be satisfied with all thine appointments; and may my hoary head be a crown of glory, by being found in the way of righteousness.

Pardon me, good Lord, that I have made no better improvement of my time and experience, my talents and advantages. Forgive all my offences and my negligences; and fill my heart with a comfortable sense of thy pardoning mercy in Christ Jesus. That having no other burden, but that of age, to oppress my spirits, I may rejoice in thee as long as I live. And whenever thou art pleased to send the summons of death, may he be divested of his terrors; and may I cheerfully resign my body to the grave, and my departing spirit into the hand of him who gave it, in the comfortable hope of a glorious resurrection to everlasting life and happiness, through Jesus Christ my Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be read in the Presence of a Person near Death.

Great God! Thou livest forever; but we are all of us dying creatures, and our breath is in thy hands. We would bless thy name, for our preserved lives, and for all the supports and comforts so long continued to us. Thou hast

been kind and gracious to us all along in life; and, whenever thou hast afflicted us, thou hast also been our deliverer and strength. We are therefore encouraged to trust in thy tried mercy, and to commit ourselves to thy disposal.

We would, at this time, particularly recommend to thy compassionate regards, thy servant before thee. O be thou his rock and refuge, his support and comfort. Lay no more upon him, than thou wilt enable him to bear. Lay him underneath thine everlasting arms, and let him repose on thy covenant faithfulness. Say unto his soul, Thou art his God. Strengthen his faith in the promises; his hopes in thy favor and love, and in the delightful prospects of a happy eternity. O give him ease of body, as well as comfort in his mind; that the passage from this to a better world, may be smooth, as well as safe. Illuminate the dark passage with thine own cheering presence; and may he, at last, depart in the well grounded persuasion, that when he is absent from the body, he shall be present with the Lord.

Help us all to prepare for our long home; that when it shall be our turn to die, we may go out of life without confusion or fear—depart in peace—sleep in Jesus—and find ourselves safe in the Redeemer's arms. All which we humbly beg, in the name, and as the disciples, of Jesus Christ, who is the Resurrection, and the life—and our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A prayer for a person unavoidably detained from public Worship on the Lord's Day.

GREAT and glorious God! Who fillest heaven and earth with thy presence! Look down, I beseech thee, on thy poor unworthy servant, in my present circumstances.

This is the day, which thou hast appointed to be kept holy, by rest from bodily labour, and by the acts of religious worship. I hope thou, who knowest all things knowest that I love the habitation of thy house and the place where thine honor dwelleth, and that I should be glad and thankful to join thy worshippers there. I durst not ask thy favor, in my present absence from thy sanctuary, did I willingly and wilfully forsake it. But as, by thy providence, I am necessarily and unavoidably detained from it, I entreat thy favor with my whole heart, and beg thine assistance in my private devotions. May my thoughts be serious and devout, and my heavenly Father precious to my remembrance, while his people this day celebrate his praise in his earthly temples. Assist me in reading, meditation and prayer—and may the desires of my soul be towards thee, throughout this sacred day.

Supply to me, O Lord, the want of the public means of grace, by the teachings of thy word and Spirit. Bring to my remembrance, and impress on my heart, what I have formerly heard and read, of the great things of religion and salvation. Hereby, may my soul be improved, and my graces and good dispositions confirmed and strengthened.

Command thy blessing on all thy worshipping

servants to day—and on the labors of thy faithful ministers, every where. And let that blessing rest on me also, who desire to join with them in spirit, now—and who hope at last, to join with the general assembly above, in ascribing without interruption, and without end, glory, and honor, and praise unto him that sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be used in Time of Infection, or General Sickness.

O THOU father of mercies! Thou God of all grace and consolation! Thou art the giver of life, and of health, which adds enjoyment to every comfort which life affords. To thee would we bow our souls, before thee would we humble ourselves in the dust, for our great unworthiness of the blessing of health, so long enjoyed, but so ill improved by us. Justly mayest thou take from us, what we have so greatly abused, and visit us with sickness, and with sorrow. One blast of thine angry breath would soon put an end to our days, and hurry us out of the land of the living. Our flesh trembleth for fear of thee, and we are afraid of thy judgments, lest thou shouldest give unto disease and death the word of command, to enter our chambers, and to sweep us away into destruction.

O thou, the hope of Isreal the Almighty Saviour in times of trouble remember us, O Lord, and be gracious unto us. Take pity on us,

and turn away this wasting plague from us.—Put a stop to the disease; and say to the destroying angel, it is enough O may we no more be afraid, of the terror by day, nor of the pestilence which walketh in darkness nor of the destruction which wasteth at noon-day. But, with ease in our minds, and gladness in our hearts, serve thee cheerfully all our days, and devote that life and health, which we have implored thee to continue, together with every other mercy bestowed upon us, to be improved and used, to thine honor and glory, through Jeses Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A prayer on the Death of Friend.

"Peace, 'tis the Lord Jehovah's hand
That blasts our joys in death;
Changes the visage once so dear,
And gathers back the breath."

O GRACIOUS and glorious God! Be merciful to thy servants, now mourning the death of a friend. Give them comfort and support under thine afflicting hand. Assist us to acquiesce in thine appointments; and enable us from the heart to say, the Lord hath taken away; and blessed be the name of the Lord! Sanctify this visitation, and help us to make a right use of all thy dispensations. May we improve them so, that in the end they may prove our greatest mercies by training up our souls for immortal happiness. Fit and prepare us, O gracious God,

for the awful summons of death; and let the (sudden) exit of our friends and acquaintances, remind us of the great uncertainty of our own continuance in this world. We know not, when we ourselves must be called to a solemn account, for what we have done, and for what we have left undone. O may we so behave, that we may neither be ashamed to live, nor afraid to die. But may we cheerfully obey the summons, and be enabled to quit this world, with well-grounded hopes of eternal felicity in the next. Teach us, O Lord, not to mourn, as those who have no hope of realizing the joys which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor have intered in the heart of man to conceive, and which the Lord hath in store for them who love him. May we consider that we have here no abiding city—that the fashion of this world passeth, rapidly, away, and that he who buildeth below the heavens, buildeth too low—O give us then the well assured hope, that when our earthly house of this tabernacle shall be dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. While nature constrains us, on this mournful occasion, to drop the sympathising tear, for our beloved friend, now deceased, teach us, O Lord, to reflect, that this light affliction which is but for a moment, is of small concern, when compared with the happiness of the redeemed of the Lord, in heaven, who have passed through that same dark vale of the shadow of death he (or she) now has gone, and we too, must enter, before we can participate of their glory. May this providence remind us, that as man goeth to his

long home, and the mourners are seen in the streets, we also, must ere long follow—that now is, to us, yet a day of grace, and withal an accepted time; yea, a day of salvation. O Lord, grant then, that our hearts may henceforth yield their best affections to the praise and glory of that Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world. Could we, O God, be assured, that this our friend, had entered the world of happy spirits, with thee, in heaven, we would have more abundant cause for joy, than sorrow, on the event we now mourn; for surely, this world, in its best estate, affords no satisfying portion for the immortal soul, but at thy right hand, there are pleasures forever more. Our souls would then be still, and, with humble resignation to thy will, acknowledge thy power, thy greatness and thy goodness, and with submission bow to this affliction, saying: thy will be done, O Father, on earth, as it is heaven, now, henceforth and forever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for Temporal Mercies.

O LORD our God! Thou art the gracious Father of all the families of the earth. The eyes of all wait upon thee, and thou givest them all things, not only for necessity, but also for delight.

Every year thou renewest the face and the fruits of the earth giving rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness. The whole world of creatures hang-

eth upon thee, for life. for breath, and for all things! Yet thou art never weary of doing us good. Thou still showerest down blessings upon us plentifully, and such a variety of comforts as render life pleasant and desirable. Yea, O Lord, thou delightest in mercy, and hast pleasure in the prosperity of thy servants. Thou makest us to know and feel, from our own happy experience, how abundantly good and kind thou art. O teach us, in the use and enjoyment of all thy blessings, to live to thy praise, and thus to shew forth our gratitude. Thy repeated bounties demand our repeated expressions of thanks and obedience. May we then resolve, like good Joshua, of old, that as for us and our House we will serve the Lord; that it may be well with us now and hereafter. Thus minded, we present thee, our Bountiful Benefactor, this our thank offering; and would ascribe to thee now, henceforth and all times, all glory dominion and honor. *Amen.*

The Widow's Prayer.

Holy and gracious Lord, God Almighty! With a humble and mournful heart, I now appear before thee. Because thou hast revealed thyself, as the Father of the fatherless and the widow's God, I feel encouraged to come to the throne of thy grace, and spread my petitions before thee. I have become a forlorn widow. In thy holy providence thou hast bereaved me of the solace of my bosom, the partner of my joys

and griefs and the minister of my daily returning wants. O wilt thou, good Lord, be my friend and benefactor, my counsellor and helper in every time of my need, to cheer my drooping heart in the various sad occurrences and trials of my life, to visit me with thy loving kindness and tender mercies and to sustain my sinking spirits when I am about to faint and fail. O say unto my dejected soul: "I am thy God: when weary and heavy laden, I will give thee rest." Supply my present loss, I pray thee, out of the fulness of thy covenant love; and grant me a greater measure of thy rich grace and out pouring of thy holy and comfortable spirit, that according to my day, so my strength may be, and in proportion to my tears, so my joys may be encreased. Pardon, I beseech thee, all my sins, that might have caused thee to hide thy face from me, and to be displeased with my former ways. And O, lift upon me the light of thy reconciled countenance, and teach me the way, wherein I must walk, to meet thy favor and future approbation. For I know that thy favor is life, and that thy loving kindness is better than life —that here, in this world of grief and change, all our possessions and enjoyments are momentary and fleeting, but at thy right hand there is fulness of joys and pleasures forever more. O give me an interest in those precious enjoyments, which are pure, undefiled, and fade not away. May I, with good Mary of old, choose that better part, which shall not be taken away from me. Cause me to repose with confidence, on thy Fatherly care and providence, that thou wilt not leave me destitute of the conveniencies and ne-

cessaries of life, now, that thou hast taken my helper and provider from me. And O instruct me from thy word, first to seek the kingdom of heaven and the righteousness thereof, that all other things may be added thereto. Give me above all things, I beseech thee, the blessed consolation of thy holy spirit. which alone can sustain me in my distress. Thy chastening hand has been laid heavily on me, and I have been made to drink deeply of the cup of woe; but who, besides thee, O Lord, knoweth what is good for man, all the days of his vain life, which he spendeth as a shadow. Here we see, but as through a glass darkly—we see but in part, and know but in part; but,praised be thy name, there remaineth hereafter a rest for the people of God when they shall see face to face, and know. even as they are known. Thou canst convert my griefs into joys, my sorrows into comforts and bring substantial good out of all my present sufferings. Will the Lord, then, inspire me with that christian fortitude and resignation, that becometh a disciple of the meek and lowly Jesus, who in an hour of great agony and distress, said: if it be thy will, O Father, let this cup pass, yet not my will, but thine be done. May I strive to imitate such a righteous and perfect obedience; yea, may I not mourn over this visitation of thy providential hand, as one who hath no hope in the promises of thy word. O preserve me,Lord, from despair, that overwhelming enemy of the soul, that messenger of Satan, that is prone to buffet the disconsolate in heart, and leadeth to the chambers of everlasting ruin and death; persuading the

mourner, that he lives without God and without hope in the world. Good Lord, keep that foe from me Let him, at no time, have dominion over me. O be Thou with me by thy Spirit, as the pledge of eternal life. Suffer no enemy to lead me astray from my duties to thee, or disturb my confidence in thy goodness and mercy. Thus will my heart be strengthened and cheered by the displays of thy bounties and blessings, and find relief from sorrow and mourning, in cherishing the remembrance of the riches of thy grace.

O hear and accept these my humble petitions, and the glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer in time of Tempests, Thunder, and Lightning.

O most glorious Lord our God! Thou art the Great, Original, Independent Being, complete in all possible perfections,—of boundless power, wisdom, and goodness—the Creator and Governor of the universe! All thy works exhibit the clearest proof of thy matchless power and glory! Who can find out the Almighty unto perfection! How wonderful art thou, and terrible in thy works and in thy ways! We fear and tremble before thee, O Lord; and would submit ourselves to thy omnipotent, glorious majesty, who makest the earth to tremble; who touchest the hills, and they smoke

O Lord, devouring fire, and stormy winds

fulfil thy word. Thou canst commission the earth to open, and swallow up its inhabitants; and the billows of a raging sea, to overwhelm, and sweep them away. When the God of Glory thundereth, we are filled with amazement and fear. The glaring lightnings, flash terror into our minds. Guilty creatures as we all are, well may we be afraid, lest he that formed us should not be merciful unto us. The dangers, which now alarm us, thou canst make messengers of judgment, of death and of destruction And we must acknowledge, that it is of thy mercy, we are not consumed, because thy compassions fail not. O gracious God! Let these thy compassions now be extended to us, thy poor unworthy creatures. In tender mercy, cause the threatening danger to pass over us.—Secure us and ours from destruction and harm. We beseech thee, to spare us, good Lord! From the perils and hurt of lightning and tempest, from sweeping judgments, and unprepared death, O Lord deliver us.

O despise not the prayers of thy poor creatures, under our present alarming fears and distresses. Strengthen our faith, and our hope in thy power, thy providence, and thy never failing goodness. O Lord, have mercy upon us, and pardon all our sins, which may well make us afraid of thine anger. If these tumults of nature seem so terrible now, how shall we tremble, when this whole mighty frame of nature tumbles down! O Lord of mercy, save us now from those sins, and from that guilt, which would then utterly consume us with terrors.

Awaken us from our security, hardness of heart, and forgetfulness of God, who is a con-

suming fire to the wicked. Blessed God! Let thy terrors soften our hearts, and leave suitable and lasting impressions upon our minds.—May we never disregard the works of the Lord, nor the operations of his hands; but with all reverence adore the supreme and eternal Ruler of the world. In thy fear may we avoid every evil provoking thing May we wisely consider our ways, and thy doings, hearken to thy calls, take thy warnings, improve thy mercies granted or continued to us, both spiritual and temporal, follow the conduct of thy good providence, and comply with all thy gracious methods used, to reform our lives, and to save our souls. May thy gracious, fatherly hand, support us in a life of holiness, devoted to thy fear. Conduct us safe through all the snares, difficulties, and dangers of this pilgrimage, and after we have been the care of thy kind providence, seen many of thy wonderful works, and had manifold experience of thy goodness in one scene of being, may we hope for admission to a nobler state of existence—to more extensive views of thy glorious works—and to a higher enjoyment of the divine pleasures which are at thy right hand. May we delight ourselves in these heavenly pleasures in this world, which will prepare us for such, but in far greater perfection, in the future state. And when these mouldering bodies shall mingle with their original dust, when our souls shall return to God who gave them, and our present manner of existence cease, may we be duly qualified to join the peaceful society above—to engage in the divine employments, and to taste the pure exalted pleasures of

the heavenly world; and be finally received to those blissful mansions, prepared for all the righteous, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour; who hath loved us with an everlasting love and sealed it by his death, and is worthy of all adoration and praise now, and forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for such as are apt to continue long awake in the Night.

ALL gracious and ever blessed God! The darkness of the night hideth not from thine all seeing eyes. Thou art acquainted with all my thoughts and ways. The darkness and the light are both alike to thee. Let the guardian angel of thy presence defend and comfort me. Lift up, I beseech thee, the light of thy countenance to me, and illuminate this gloomy scene with the consolations of thy spirit — Whilst thou keepest mine eyes waking. I desire devoutly to lift them up to thee, the father of lights, to remember thee upon my bed, and to meditate upon thee in the night watches. Compose my mind—banish every fear—and may my thoughts and reflections on myself instruct me in the night season while others are asleep.

I would recollect and acknowledge, O Lord, thy constant care and goodness to me, both by day and by night. I would commune with my own heart on my bed,—repent of all my past misconduct, for which I might justly have been banished to eternal darkness—and lift up my

heart in grateful acknowledgments for all thy patience and forbearing goodness to me.

I would solemnly give up myself to thy service and disposal, and desire humbly to acquiesce in every painful and disagreeable allotment.

Support me, gracious Father, under every burden and infirmity. When I walk in darkness, be thou a light about me. Animate and comfort me with the views of that better world, where there is no night nor darkness, but where the Lord shall be an everlasting light to his faithful servants, and where the days of mourning shall be ended.

O may I learn from my own feelings, how to pity the sick and afflicted—those who have painful days and sleepless nights—those, whose age or infirmities cause their days and nights to pass heavily on,—and those who are under any kind of distress or trial. And may all the sufferings of the present life work out, for them and for me, a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for the return of Health, after an Epidemic Sickness.

O THOU great preserver of men To thee, O Lord God, do we thy grateful servants come, to present our thankful acknowledgments for thy merciful interposition, in favor of thy people, whom thou didst see fit to visit with a general,

infectious disease. Thou hast delivered our souls from the grave, and kept us alive, that we should not go down into the pit.

Blessed be thy name, gracious Father, for thy kind preservation from this threatening malady; and for the recovery of such, as have been visted with it! We have dwelt in the secret place of the Most High; and under the shadow of the Almighty have we been kept in safety.—O what thanks are due to thee, our very present help in time of trouble! O that the lives thou hast spared may be spent in thy service!—And may the health, thou hast restored to thy people be devoted to thy praise! Continue thou, we beseech thee, to be the health of our countenance and our God; and our hearts, cheered by thy renewed favors, will praise thee more and more. O teach us thy holy will, and lead us in the ways of rightousness and peace, that we may serve thee in the beauties of holiness for the remainder of the days, thy providence may suffer us to enjoy. And the glory be to our, heavenly Father, now, and forever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for recovery from Sickness.

Ever Blessed and gracious God. To thee am I indebted for life and all my comforts and enjoyments. Therefore would I now draw near unto thee and make my grateful acknowledgments to thee, of a new instance of thy tender love and compassion to thine unworthy servant. Thy chastising hand hath lately visited

me with a severe and terrible sickness, which I feared would have been unto death; and the more so; because thy servant felt himself unprepared to appear before thy righteous judgment seat, to answer for my many trespasses and follies and sins of omission and commission; yea, the best of us have reason to tremble on being summoned in thine holy presence, to answer for the deeds done in the flesh; for wert thou strict to mark our sins against us, we could not answer thee, for one, of a thousand. And it is only the precious blood of Jesus, which can erase these foul stains of guilt from our poluted souls. Alas! on my late sick bed, I cried mightily to Jesus, the friend of sinners, that he would take pity on me and reconcile me to the Father, for his name sake, And, praised be the God and Father of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, my memorial came up before him, towards his holy temple—he preserved me from a sudden departure to the world of Spirits; and kept me from going down into the pit of corruption. Grant, gracious Lord, that I may now improve the day of this thy merciful visitation, to the glory of thee, my Creator and preserver, and to the advancement of my temporal and eternal interests. Help me now, I pray thee, so to live that I may not fear to die. O teach me, so to number my days, as to apply my heart unto wisdom. Give me an interest in the precious promises of the gospel of peace. Clothe my nakedness, with the mantle of Christ's righteousness. O enable me to keep th faith to endure unto the end and finish my course with joy; that so I may meet death hereafter, without fear

or dismay; & finally receive that crown of righteousness, which the Lord hath in store for them who love him and keep his commandments.—And to thee, the God whom I adore, shall be the praise and glory forever. *Amen.*

Another Thanksgiving on Recovery from Sickness.

O most mighty God and merciful Father, wonderful in thy doings, and gracious in all thy dispensations towards the children of men; I thy unworthy servant prostrate myself before thee, with all the fervent affections of a grateful breast acknowledging it thy goodness, that I am not long ago consumed. *Thou, Lord, hast chastened and corrected me, but thou hast not given me over to death* Blessed therefore be that divine wisdom which saw this late affliction seasonable, and would not suffer me to perish in my folly, for want of such necessary warning. Blessed be that tender compassion, which in the midst of wrath remembered mercy, which made all my bed in my sickness, consoled me with thy comfortable word, passed by my impatience and many infirmities; and inclined a willing ear to the wandering and discomposed supplications, of a poor feeble wretch, when he cried unto thee, in his extreme anguish and distress — Blessed be the powerful influence of that grace, which disposed my heart to consideration and repentance. But, above all, blessed forever be that power and goodness, which, by sparing me

when I had deserved to be utterly cut off, hath given me opportunity to make good those holy resolutions which thy grace inspired when I was in trouble. Lord, let this goodness of thine, and my own serious purposes of amendment, never slip out of my mind; but preserve in me a constant tender sense of the indispensable obligations I lie under to better obedience. Make me every day more and more zealous in promoting thy glory, and the good of my brethren; as as a person saved from destruction For this very end, that the remainder of my life should be employed in the service of my gracious deliverer: In this sense, O my God, I humbly offer and present unto thee this soul and body, rescued from hell and the grave: Beseeching thee to keep them thine forever. O let not the return of my health produce a relapse into my former sins; but become an instrument of thy greater honor, of my own stricter and more stead fast virtue here, and my more exquisite happiness hereafter. O! that the talents of time and the ability to do good, which have been heretofore so wretchedly neglected, may (now they are afresh committed to my trust) be for the time to come so faithfully improved, that the shining graces of an exemplary conversation may hold some proportion with the blessings I have been so particularly favored withal. Let these excite, not me only, but others also, by my example; to love thee more fervently, and to serve thee more cheerfully.

To this end, sanctify, I beseech thee, all the methods of thy providence to the salvation of my immortal soul; and especially, let not thy

abused mercies ever rise up in judgment against me. *O*! may my past sufferings work in me great humility and godly fear; that from them I may confirm myself in faith, and patience, and an entire resignation of thy will and wiser choices for me. Bring back frequently to my remembrance the promises & supplications poured out in the bitternes of my soul, that those successful addresses to the throne of grace, may stir me up effectually to the paying what I then so solemnly vowed. Open thou my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may declare thy mercy and truth as long as I live, and praise my God while I have any being. Let the thought and certain expectation of death and judgment be, so constantly so powerfully, present to my soul, that in what hour soever my Lord shall come, I may be found ready to meet him, and to go in with him to the marriage. Even so blessed Jesus; grant me in such manner, to pass through things temporal, that I finally lose not the things eternal; but that I may use and improve my grace here, till grace at last be swallowed up in glory, and I translated to my Master's joy. All which I beg for thine own merit's sake, my only Mediator and Redeemer, to whom with the Father and Holy Spirit, be ascribed, as is most due, from me and every creature, all honor and glory, dominion and power, thanksgiving and praise, and humble adoration, henceforth and forevermore. *Amen.*

A Thanksgiving, when the Head of a Family has been sick, and is recovered.

BLESSED be God, who has so far restored the health of thy servant, that he is able once more to lead his family in religious worship. To thy infinite goodness we owe it, that we are all here before thee, in the land of the living. O may the health thou art pleased to continue, and to restore, be devoted to thyself, and to thy service. May our greater diligence in duty for the time to come, evidence the sincerity of our gratitude, and the just sense we feel of the obligations laid upon us.—May we ever remember, that our time is short and uncertain—and that a time of health is the only opportunity of preparing for sickness, and for death. Help us all, O Lord, to improve it well—him (her) in particular, whom thou hast raised up; that we may be ready, whenever the summons of death comes, to meet and welcome it. And then, having a well spent life to look back upon with comfort, and the well grounded hopes of a blessed immortality, to brighten the dark passage of the valley of the shadow of death, do thou, O Father, receive our departing spirits into the arms of thy mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Thanksgiving, when several of the Family have been sick, and are recovered.

Blessed be God for his goodness to this family! Thou hast laid thine afflicting hand upon many of the members of it. May we learn righteousness by what we have suffered! Thou art the Great Physician, and hast given a blessing to the means employed. Through thy goodness, we are here again the living, the living to praise thee. O may the lives thou hast been pleased to lengthen out, be devoted to thy service; and may we shew our gratitude for thy great goodness, by a life of duty, and of better obedience.

We desire, good God, to be very humble, under a sense of our great unworthiness of thy favors. We would dread above all things to offend so good a God, so kind a friend. Help us to improve every visitation of thy providence, to the valuable and gracious ends intended in it by thee, our heavenly Father,—that thou mayes delight in us, and continue thy care over us; for, O God, by thy care and goodness only can we be preserved in safety and in comfort—By a continual improvement in goodness, and in all the habits of Christian obedience, may we be prepared for a happy exit out of this world, and finally, be admitted to that world of glory and felicity, reserved for the righteous, by Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for the Prospect of Recovery from dangerous Sickness.

BLESSED be God for thy supporting mercy, and for the many blessings bestowed upon thy servant. He (she) may indeed sing of mercy in the midst of judgment and affliction. Thy tender mercies are ingredients in the bitter cup; and we know, that thou afflictest thy creatures, not willingly, nor for thine own pleasure; but for our profit, that we may be made partakers of thy holiness. Sanctify, O Lord, all thy dealings. Give patience to bear what thou seest fit to lay upon him; and in thine own due time, a happy issue of the present visitation of thy providence. We desire to wait thy will with patience and resignation, putting our trust in thine infinite goodness and mercy, and knowing that thou hast not only almighty power to execute, unerring wisdom to direct, but unbounded compassion and tender love to incline thee to help us in our distresses. We therefore leave ourselves in thine hands, with humble hope and confidence, that we shall receive from thy paternal goodness, all that is best for us, and also in the best time. We know, that thou art the able, the kind physician, who canst work with or without means. O say the word, and thy servant shall live, and be made well again. We will hope and trust in thy goodeess, and cheerfully leave ourselves and all our concerns in thy kind hands. We earnestly beg the pardon of our sins, and a gracious answer to the lawful desires of

our souls, for thine own goodness sake, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

The Orphan's Prayer.

My God and heavenly Father! Permit me to call thee mine; for I am assured by thy holy and comfortable word, that when my father and my mother forsake me, then thou, Lord, will take me up—that thou art the Father of the fatherless and a present help to all the children of want. Thou, Lord, hath created me, and in thee do I live, and move, and have my being. My out-goings and in-comings and all my ways, are known unto thee; yea, not a hair can fall from my head, with out the will of my Heavenly Father. Therefore would I draw near unto thee, at this time, being destitute of earthly parents, and beseech thee to be my Father, my God, and my everlasting portion.

In thy wise providence, thou hast taken my father and my mother from me, leaving me an orphan, bereaved of parental help and counsel, to be guided by my own frail understanding, in a world lying in wickedness: constantly exposed to be alienated from God and my best interests, by three powerful enemies: the world, my wicked heart and the wiles of Satan. Temptations and snares every where beset me, endangering my present and future peace. Thus circumstanced, whither shall I go, O Lord, but to thee, for thou hast the words of eternal! Thou wert the God of our Father Abraham, when he

journeyed, a stranger in a strange land, not knowing whither he went. Thou wert the guide of thy people Isreal, conducting them, by a pillar of cloud, by day and by a piller of fire by night: verily, thou hast been the refuge of thy people and the rock of their support in all ages. Be thou, I pray thee, my Guardian. Friend and Counsellor. Preserve me from the errors I am prone to commit; and make thy law my study, day and night. O send out thy light and truth; let them lead me. Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. Blot out, I beseech thee, my trespasses and sins from the book of thy remembrance.—Let them not cause thee to be angry with me; for I know that thou art a holy God, and that holiness becometh thee and thy people forever. O inspire me with the confidence, in thy goodness and paternal care, that thou who feedeth the ravens of the valley, will also, bountifully, supply my daily returning wants. Assist me, O God, of Abraham and Isreal, in my intercourse with the world, that I may walk wisely and circumspectly—not as the fool, but redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Keep me, O Lord, from the congregations of the wicked and seats of the scornful. O teach me now, in the days of my youth, to remember my Creator, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when I may say, I have no pleasure in them. Cause me to do justice, to love mercy and walk humbly with my God. May I strive to imitate the meekness of Moses, the patience of Job and the piety of David; that so I may be made a meet partaker of the riches of thy

grace in Jesus Christ, the son of thy love, who is the way, the truth and the life, for no man cometh to the Father, but by him. O make that Saviour exceeding precious to my soul, and be thou, in and through him, I humbly pray thee, my reconciled Father. Now, what wait I for! O lead me by thy counsel and finally recive me to glory: and thine shall be the praise forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for one who is disturbed with Wicked Thoughts.

O Lord God, the Father of our spirits, to whom all hearts are open. and all desires known; we humbly entreat thee to succor and relieve this thy servant, who labors under the burden of wicked thoughts. Let thy power and goodness be shown in healing his (her) disordered mind. Cleanse the thoughts of his heart by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit. Suffer them not to be defiled by any prophane or blasphemous suggestions, but heal the soul of thy servant, by enabling him to stifle and suppress all such thoughts as tend to rob him of his peace, or deprive him of the comforts of religion. Enable him to be of an equal and steady temper, to be mild and gentle in his behaviour, and to keep his hopes and fears within due bounds — Make him sensible of the wise and kind reasons of these afflictions; that, if they are duly improved, they may be powerful preservatives of his soul against the prevailing sins of a licen-

tious age; may lessen his inclinations to the enjoyments of this life, and deaden his appetite to sensual pleasure, and the perishing goods of this world; that these afflictions may dispose him to compassionate the sufferings of others, and make him more thoroughly feel his own infirmities, and the want of divine assistance — Open his eyes, that he may see and know the wise and gracious dispensations of thy providence; and by humbling himself under them, may at length be lifted up and made a partaker of that peace and joy which thou bestowest on all thy faithful servants. Grant this for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer who is worthy of all adoration and praise, now and forever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for one who is afflicted with a Mistrust in Divine Truths.

O MOST gracious God, in whose hand is the soul of every living creature; protect this thy servant, we humbly and earnestly entreat thee, against all doubts and mistrusts of thy truth, against all irreligious thoughts and suggestions.

Never suffer them, O Lord, to weaken his faith, or to hinder him from performing his duty. Preserve him not only from the sin, but if it seem good to thine infinite wisdom, from the temptation and the sorrow, which may attend them.

But, if it be thy blessed will to continue these terrifying thoughts for his trial and humiliation, Lord, make him sensible that they will not be

imputed to him as sin, if, as soon as he perceives them, he rejects them with horror and indignation.

During this trial, let him learn to depend upon thee, that, as often as these prophane thoughts arise in his mind, he may find grace to overcome them, and without the least indulgence or delay to cast them out; and that he may learn to show patience under them, as under every other affliction and trial of thy appointment, trusting to thy grace to assist him, and to thy goodness to deliver him; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.—*Amen.*

A Prayer for one under fears and doubts of his Spiritual Condition.

O Lord our God, we offer up our humble supplication to thee in behalf of this thy servant, whose soul is disquieted within him (her) by his fears and anxiety respecting the safety of his condition. Remove from him, we entreat thee all frightful apprehension, all perplexing doubts and scruples about his duty. Make him satisfied and settled in a right understanding of all thy precepts, and careful in the observance of them; and dispel, by the light of thy countenance, all that darkness which obscures his soul, that he may not be unnecessarily dejected, and distrustful of himself, or dishonorably jealous of thee. Deliver him from all those offences which make him so much a stranger to peace and comfort; and cause him to place his chief satisfac-

tion and delight in obeying thy commandments, and in meditating on thy mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Preserve this thy servant, O gracious father, from dishonoring thee and his religion, by distrusting thy power, or thy goodness. —— Enable him to cast all troublesome imaginations from him, and give him a clear understanding of thee, and of himself, that no causeless fears and jealousies may overwhelm him, nor his heart sink within him from any sadness and dejection of spirit. Compose, we beseech thee, his disturbed thoughts; quiet his disordered mind, and appease all the tumults of his soul, by a sweet sense of thy tender mercies, and of the love of thy Son Jesus Christ to mankind. Keep him from forming any rash conclusions concerning thy providence; and give him so much light and judgment amid all the darkness and confusion of his thoughts, that he may not think himself forsaken by thee; but may firmly believe, that if he does the best he can, thou requirest no more. And enable him, O Lord, to look forwards to that region of light and glory, whither our Saviour is gone before, to prepare a place for all thy faithful servants.

Strengthen his weak and feeble endeavors.—Support his fainting spirit, and cause it humbly to hope in thee. Confirm and establish every good thought, desire, and purpose, which thou hast wrought in him. Make him to grow in wisdom with love, and willing obedience. Conduct him hereafter so easily and steadily, peaceably and quietly, so cheerfully and securely, in thy ways; that he may glorify thee whilst he lives,

and when he leaves this troublesome world, may resign his soul into thy merciful hands, with a pious confidence and a hope of a joyful resurrection; through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A prayer to be used by a Person afflicted with a Distemper of long Continuance.

O Lord God Almighty! I am wonderfully made, and all my powers of body and mind were produced and are supported by thee — "Thou killest, and makest alive: thou woundest, and makest whole."

I own and reverence thine hand in my present afflictions. I acknowledge that thou art righteous in all that befalls me; for I have sinned: and thou chastenest me less than my iniquities deserve. In punishment thou shewest mercy, continuest to me many comforts, prolongest my opportunities of reflection and amendment, and givest hope of that pardon which I so much want, and at this time earnestly entreat.

I desire, in this poor condition of my health, to search and try my ways, and turn unto thee, O Lord, by deep humility, sincere repentance, and faith in the great Redeemer: and may the fruit of this and every affliction be to take away sin, and make my heart better.

O God, if it be thy merciful will, direct me to and prosper, some means for the removal of my disorder, that I may yet be capable of glorifying thee in my station, and, by farther en-

deavors for thy service upon earth, be fitter for immortality.

Support me, gracious Lord, that my soul may not be quite cast down, and too much disquieted within me. Assist me to cherish penitent, believing, serious thoughts and affections.—Grant me such resignation to thy will, such patience and meekness towards men, as my Divine Master requireth, and as he himself manifested while he was a sufferer on earth. Forgive all the harshness and sinfulness of my temper, and keep it from increasing upon me.—May I learn from what I now feel, to pity all who are sick, in pain or otherwise afflicted, and do all in my power to assist and relieve them

If by this affliction thou intendest to bring me down to the grave, prepare me by thy grace, for my removal hence, and entrance on the unseen eternal state: and may all the sufferings of the present life work out for me a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

I am thankful for any degree of ease and comfort which I have this day enjoyed. Grant me, this night, such refreshing rest, that I may be better able to discharge the duties and bear the burthen of another day, if thou art pleased to indulge me with it If my eyes are kept waking, may my meditations be comfortable and useful to me.

Pity my weakness, merciful and heavenly Father, and hear my imperfect petitions, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who was once a man of sorrow, and is still touched with the feeling of our infirmities; to whom as our merciful High Priest and powerful Intercessor, be glory for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be used on the Death of a Friend.

O ALMIGHTY God! who dost not willingly grieve the children of men, but in thy visitations rememberest mercy, teach me by thy grace to bear the loss of that dear person, whom thou hast taken from me, with patience and resignation, and to make a right use of the affliction which thy fatherly hand hath laid upon me.—Thou hast given, and thou hast taken away: blessed be thy holy name. Make me thankful, O Lord, for the comforts and blessings which I still enjoy; and sanctify to my soul all the suffering which in the course of this mortal life thou shalt appoint for me. Let the death of friends and relations help to keep me always mindful of my own mortality. And grant that by thy grace I may here apply my heart to wisdom, and may hereafter by thy mercy be received into that everlasting kingdom, where all tears shall be wiped from all faces, and sorrowing and sighing shall flee away. Hear me, O merciful Father, for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Rich Man's Prayer.

GREAT and adorable Jehovah! Thou art the bountiful giver of all things—the source of all my comforts and enjoyments. Lord, I thank thee that thou hast blessed me in my basket and store, far above many of my neighbors—that thou hast given me the good things of this life, richly to enjoy; yea, that thou hast made my cup

of blessing to overflow with thy bounty. Lord, what am I better than others, that I should be thus highly favored of thee! Surely, I have not rendered thee a better obedience, nor shewed a greater veneration for thy holy religion, than others who are poor in the goods of this world.—These peculiar tokens of thy goodnsss to me, demand my cordial thanksgiving and unbounded gratitude. What shall I render unto thee, my God, for these benefits and displays of thy kindness to thine unworthy servant! Thou desirest not sacrifice, else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken and contrite spirit, a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.—I would humble myself before thee and cry: guilty, guilty, I am a sinner, not worthy of the least of thy favors; yea, in thy sight shall no man living be justified. It is only through the merits of a crucified Saviour that I can approach thee, O Lord, with the hopes of pardon and reconciliation. I would not live in forgetfulness of thy benefits; for I know that thy blessing maketh rich and addeth no sorrow.—Therefore do I now prostrate myself before thee and pray that thou wouldst not suffer my heart to be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. O let not my riches, I beseech thee, be a snare, in the hands of Satan, to ruin the interests of my immortal soul; for what would I be profited, although I should gain the whole world and loose my own soul! And what would I give in exchange for my soul! All in this world is vanity, vicissitude and vexation of spirit. Nothing here is durable, but change.

And, verily, the days of our years are three score years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off and we fly away; but thy precious salvation, O Lord, adored by thy name, endured forever. O teach me then, so to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wisdom; for wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. Keep me, I pray thee, continually on the watch against the dangers and temptations of my situation in life. Let me not say: I am full, have need of nothing and slight the overtures of redeeming love. Let not my riches become my idols, to usurp my worship of thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, my Redeemer, whom thou hast sent, to be a propitiation for my sins and those of the world. O God! forbid, that I should convert thy temporal blessings into my eternal curse and ruin—that, in my prosperity, I should neglect to consider my latter end, and be finally summoned before thy judgment seat, without a confident trust in Jesus, the only hope of glory. Cause me to honor thee with that substance which thou hast so largely dispensed to me. May I render thee the homage of a grateful heart, for all thy bounties; and strive to walk in all thy laws and ordinances blameless. Make me liberal and humane in all my intercourse with my fellow men, avoiding pride and hating covetousness. And O, dispose me to that charity, which purifieth the heart and worketh by love; that thus I may not prove an unworthy steward of all thy benefits and blessings, and thou enter not into judg-

ment, with thy servant, by reason of his unsanctified use of his wealth and possessions—seeing, according to thy word, that a rich man can hardly enter into thy heavenly kingdom. And O, may thy servant not despise any poor Lazarus;that he should provoke thy displeasure, and cause thee to refuse him a place in thy heavenly kingdom, but may he have respect for the testimony of thy word, in considering the poor; for blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble: the Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing.

Lord I would come unto thee, renouncing mine own righteousness, as nothing in thy sight, and beseech acceptance with thee, alone, through the virtues of the blood of sprinkling, which speaketh better things than the blood of Abel. O grant that I may count all things but loss,for the excellency of the knowledge which is in Christ Jesus, my Lord. Help me to use this world, as not abusing it, remembering that its fashion passeth away. Preserve me, O Lord, from cherishing an undue attachment to the transitory possessions of this world. Make me mindful that the place which now knows me, will soon know me no more forever; and that in the hour of my departure to a future state of being, I will die rich, indeed, if I die in Jesus, and poor indeed, if I die without him. May I then while I live, live to Jesus—and when I die, die to Jesus—that whether living or dying, I may die to Jesus, giving glory to God and the Lamb that sitteth on the throne, forevermore.—*Amen.*

The Poor Man's Prayer.

GREAT and good God! Praised be thy name on earth, as it is in heaven. O thou, that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come. Thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth. Thy providence is over all thy creatures and thou givest to all their meat in due season. Thou buildeth up and thou destroyeth. Thou exalteth and thou abaseth, maketh rich and poor, high and low. Thy rain descendeth alike upon the just and unjust, and with thee there is no respect of persons. Thou hast given divers faculties and capacities to the children of men, and caused them all to know thee, from the least to the greatest; &although hand,join in hand thou wilt not let the wicked go unpunished. But blessed be thy holy name, O Lord, that thou hast revealed thyself as a God who peculiarly delights to dwell with the poor and needy, with the meek and lowly and such as be of a contrite spirit. Therefore is thy servant, now before thee, animated to come unto thee, and spread his petitions before thee. Thou hast allotted him an humble station in life, and given him small means of supplying his bodily wants. O grant, Lord, that the interests of his immortal soul may the better prosper—that his affections may thus become weaned from the things of time and sense and placed on thee, and his treasure being with thee, his heart may be there also. May I honor thee with the little substance thou hast given,are as if thou had bestowed me a greater abundance, trusting that the little which a righteous man hath is better than the abundance of

the wicked. Truly, the Psalmist saith: "the Lord loveth the righteous and hateth the wicked; for mark the perfect man, and behold the upright man: the end of that man is peace: I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green Bay-tree; yet he passeth away and lo! he was not found: I sought him, but he could not be found: The Lord ordereth the steps of a good man and delighteth in his way; though he fall he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord holdeth him up with his hand: I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." I will therefore rejoice in thee, O God, as all my salvation and all my hope. Cause me, gracious Lord, rather to suffer poverty and affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; for we have here no abiding city, but seek one which is to come, even, the kingdom of thy glory, which endureth forever. Soon will this world and all sublunary enjoyments vanish from my sight, as the morning clouds and as the early dew, and the realities of an immortal existence beyond the grave, present to me a more enduring substance, than the toys and trifles that amuse mortals in this changing scene, can afford. "Man wants but little here below, nor wants that little long." Lord, let me die the death of the righteous and my latter end be like his. May I not labor for the meat that perisheth, but for that which endureth to everlasting life. If the poverty of my worldly possessions will tend to increase my heavenly treasures, then although I may be poor with

men, I may become rich with God, which is far better. For surely, every man heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.—Make me then, O Lord, to know my latter end, and the measure of days, that I may learn how frail I am. Keep me, I pray thee, from harboring a distrust in thy Fatherly providence, that I envy not the rich and great of this world, who make a God of their mammon and serve the creature more than thee, the Creator. May I not covet the goods of others, or any thing that is my neighbors's, but contenting myself with thy disposals, may always abound in the works of the Lord; trusting that my labor in the Lord, shall not be in vain. Cause me to improve the humble station, in which thou hast placed me to the advancement of my present and future peace—that like a true deciple of the lowly Jesus, who had not where to lay his head, I may go about doing good: laboring with mine own hands, following the laudable example of the great Apostle of the Gentiles; that so I be not burthensome to those around me. Enable me to demean myself with honesty and uprightness in all my intercourse with the world, that thus I may be in favor with God and man. O Lord, let not my poverty prove a snare to my integrity, in tempting me from my duties to thee and my neighbor, and thereby ruining my hopes of the rest which remaineth for the people of God. But make my walk and conversation close with thee, and my meditations on thy law sweet and frequent—that I may behold the beauty of the Lord and enquire of him in his earthly courts; so shall I be satisfied as with

marrow and fatness, and go on my way rejoicing. One thing more would I beseech of thee, O Lord, and that would I seek after, even, that as I am poor in worldly goods, I may be poor in spirit also, and finally be made worthy to receive the benediction of mine ascended Lord: *blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.* And the glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, forever. *Amen.*

Prayer and Meditation on the Crucifixion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O Lord Jesus! Thou innocent Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world: thou who consoled good Simeon, of old, when he said: Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation: yea, thou, who art the hope of all who trust in thee, even thou, although a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance unto Isreal, and remission of sins, was of humble birth and poor parentage—shewing that thy kingdom was not of this world. When a babe in the flesh, clothed with human nature, that thou mightest fulful the purposes of thy love, in making atonement for the guilt of the world, thou wert wrapped in mean apparel and laid in a manger. Thou didst become a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. Although rich, on our account, thou wert made poor; that we, by thy poverty might be made rich. Thou Son of God! who knew no sin; blessed be thy name, became sin for us,

that we might become righteous before God — Of thine own free will, thou hast offered thyself a sacrifice for our offences. As a lamb thou wert led to the slaughter, and as a sheep, that is dumb before her shearers, so thou opened not thy mouth. Against thee, the chief priests and elders of the Jews took counsel together, that they might slay thee; and having led thee bound, to Pontius Pilate, thou wert unjustly accused before him; for he said: I am innocent of the blood of this just person; see ye to it — Thou wert delivered over into the hands of transgressors, as a malefactor, mocked, reviled, spitted on and smote in the face, beaten and striped, divested of thine apparel, clothed with a scarlet robe, crowned with thorns, crucified on the accursed tree, and given gall and vinegar, to drink. Alas! thou endureth the most excruciating pain and anguish, when with a loud voice, thou cried, saying; "My God, my God, why hast thou farsaken me" All this, Lord, Jesus, praised be thy name, thou voluntarily suffered, that thou mightest make atonement, to our heavenly Father, for our trespasses and sins; & procure an everlasting righteousness for our sinful race, who were obnoxious to the curse of the law and without hope in the world. For there is no other name given among men, whereby we can be saved, but by thy name, thou Saviour of men and Prince of peace! O the height and the depth of thi ,thine unbounded love and pity to the children ofmen! surpassing human comprehension, and claiming our everlasting gratitude.

O grant, dear Lord, that we may ever be

mindful of this great salvation, which thou hast procured for us Pardon our sins Pity our weaknesses and follies. Help us to refrain from crucifying thee, of anew, by our disobedience of thy laws and precepts O may the tragic event of thy death, blessed Jesus, sink deep into our memories, inspire our faith, elevate our hopes, and raise our desires for the possession of that inheritance, which fadeth not away, that thou hast sealed to us by thy precious blood. Grant us, we beseech thee, thy holy spirit, to aid us in preserving and improving the blessings of the decease that was accomplished at Jerusalem, until the day of our final redemption—that with anxious desire we may wait for thy salvation and work out the same with fear and trembling. May it ever be our supreme felicity and our highest comfort, in this valley of tears, that thou Lord Jesus, hast not redeemed us from the pains and torments of hell and eternal woe, with silver nor gold, nor any other perishable substance, but alone, with thy precious blood. Henceforward, may neither affliction nor danger, nor peril, nor sword, separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. In fine, may the remembrance of the death and sufferings of the Cross, tend to make us conquerors, and more than conquerors amid all the occurrences of our mortal pilgrimage, through Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, who loved us and gave himself for us: and to whom be blessing and honor and praise, forever. *Amen.*

Prayer and meditation on the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus! who hast been fully declared the Son of God with power, by the resurrection from the dead, who livest forever and ever: strengthen me in my weakness. comfort me in my sorrow, and drive from my soul all fears and apprehensions of death. Adorable Saviour! I have no longer any thing to dread from this proud and cruel enemy, seeing thou hast loosed its pains, broken in pieces all its fetters, and hast overcome death and the grave. O glorious and triumphant Monarch! shall I tremble before a discomfitted and disarmed enemy, whom I see lying under thy feet, and chained to thy triumphal chariot? I need only follow the sacred footsteps of thy victory, and gather its noble fruits. If, when thou wast shut up in the prison of death, thou wast able to make it sensible of thy power, to bring down its pride, and to carry away its prisoners, what may I not expect from thy victorious and almighty arm, now thou hast the keys of death and of hell? O most mighty and merciful Lord! thou hast not only overcome death for me, but thou wilt also overcome it by me, who am thy child, and the sheep of thy pasture, whose ransom thou hast paid. Thou art not only risen from the dead, but thou art the resurrection and the life, thou art the Prince of Life, the fountain of glory and immortality; "so that whosoever liveth, and believeth in thee "thee, shall never die; and he that believeth not in

"thee, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

Who would not admire thee, O invincible Nazarite! who having slept till the third day, in the bowels of the earth, rose again by thy own divine power, carried away the gates of hell, and hast made them become the gates of heaven, the entrance into the celestial paradise? Let me die, since my Redeemer liveth, and will conduct me through death into an happy life, purchased for me with his most precious blood, and secured to me by his glorious resurrection, ever praised be his name. *Amen.*

Prayer and Meditation on the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O HOLY and divine Saviour! to strengthen myself against the fears of death, I have already looked upon thy noble conflicts and glorious victory; that my joy may be perfect and accomplished, grant me the grace that I may also behold thy magnificent triumph. As thou hast fought for me, and made me partaker of the fruit of thy victories, grant that I may also share in the honour of thy triumph. As thou hast suffered for my offences, and art arisen again for my justification, so thou hast ascended up into heaven to prepare a place for me. Thou art willing I should be admitted into thy divine palace, that I should be where thou art, and that I should behold thy glory, which thou hast enjoyed with God the Father, before the foundation of the world. O sweet and merciful Lord!

what reason have I to fear going to heaven, since thou art seated there in the highest glory and happiness, and stretchest out thy arms to receive me? May I not rather expect to be glorified in thy kingdom, since thou bestowest upon all them that serve thee immortal crowns and sceptres? O Almighty God and Saviour! thy throne is surrounded with infinite majesty and splendor; nevertheless I will come boldly unto it, for as much as it is a throne of love and mercy, unto which every penitent sinner may draw near. Though thy glory and majesty are increased, yet thy love for me, and thy tender compassion, are not diminished. Thou art the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever. Thou hast vouchsafed, for my salvation, to lie in a manger, and to be nailed to the cross. Thou hast laid down thy life for my ransom, and hast shed thy precious blood to wash and cleanse me from my sins, and to mark me out the way to thine heavenly sanctuary. In the midst of all that glorious light wherewith thou art clothed thou art not ashamed to acknowledge me thy brother, [thy sister], and for a member of thy mystical body. It is for my sake, that thou appearest before thy heavenly Father and that thou offerest up prayers and supplications unto him. O adorable Lord! it is in thy power to give me the things which thou hast merited by thy sufferings, and which thou requestest for me by thy prayers and intercession; for all power is given unto thee in heaven and on earth. O Sovereign Monarch of the world! hast not thou made us this great and precious promise, "I, if I be lifted up from the earth,

will draw all "men unto me?" and is it not for us that thou hast prayed in this transporting manner, "Father, I will that they also whom "thou hast given me, be with me where I am "that they may behold my glory which thou "hast given me?" Since, therefore, thou hast been lifted up from this miserable earth, to reign and triumph in heaven, draw my soul unto thee, O merciful Redeemer! and deliver it from this vale of tears and misery. Cause it to hear at the time of its departure these words of joy and eternal comfort, "Verily, I say unto thee, To-day "shalt thou be with me in paradise." Lord Jesus, draw me with the cords of thy love and mercy, and I will run after thee. O victorious Monarch! who art now in thy kingdom, crowned with perfect glory and happiness, forget not thy servant. Let not the songs of the holy angels, and the praises of all glorified spirits, hinder thee from listening to my sighs and groans. O almighty and merciful Lord! look upon me with an eye of love, and reach out unto me thy helping hand. Send to my assistance thine angels of light. to protect me from the angels of darkness, that endeavour to destroy me and to drag me headlong into hell. Let those glorious spirits that fly at thy command, deliver me out of the paws of death, and bear me upon their wings to thy bosom; that I may behold thy glory, and rejoice in thee, as my portion, world without end. *Amen.*

Prayer and Meditation of a true Believer, prepared to leave this world.

O INFINITE and everlasting Saviour; thou Son of God! by whom all things were created, and without whom was not any thing made that was made; thou hast not only formed our spirits, and fashioned our bodies, but when both were miserably lost, corrupted, and ruined by sin, hast redeemed us by thy blood, and renewed us by thy Spirit and grace. The frail body is but an earthen vessel; yet thou hast furnished it with peculiar treasure, ordained it to be the temple of the Holy Ghost, an habitation of God through the Spirit, and will make it meet to partake with the soul of the eternal happiness of thy heavenly kingdom. I find my natural strength failing, and the body to be dying daily, and am persuaded it soon will return to the dust: but this is my comfort, while the outward frame suffers decays, the inward man is renewed day by day; and though the body falls by death and in dishonor, thou wilt raise it up again in glory. Difficult as this may seem to sense, it cannot be so to thee, my Lord and my God; for all power is thine in heaven and on earth, and thou raiseth and quickenest whom thou wilt: out of the dust thou formedst the human body at the beginning; and though by death it be reduced to its former state, thou art able of its dust to form it again at the end of time — Thou O Lord, hast created my soul, and infused it into the body; and though they are separated by death for a season, thou wilt command

them together again, and render that union happy for ever. O glorious Prince of life! thou hast encountered the enemy death, overcome the king of terrors, disarmed and stripped him of his terrible array. Thou hast submitted to the stroke of death to answer the most valuable ends; but art returned to life, livest for ever, and hast the keys of hell and death; who openest and none can shut, hast power to kill and make alive at thy pleasure. Thou, O Jesus, art the resurrection and the life, art able and willing to deliver this body from the power of death, to awake the sleeping dust with the sound of the Archangel's trumpet, according to thy word.—I hope to see the glorious day when thou wilt appear in triumph, attended with holy angels, proclaiming liberty to all thy captives under the power of death, and restoring to them all spiritual and eternal blessings which they had forfeited by sin. Earth and sea shall readily surrender the dead, in obedience to thy commands.—O omnipotent Word, that brought the heavens and the earth into being! thou wilt cause thy voice to be heard in the grave, the dead shall hear it, and march out to meet thee at thy judgment-seat. Then shall we arise, not wrapt in our grave-clothes, (as Lazarus heretofore), nor with any relicks of infirmity about us; but with bodies perfect, glorious, and abundantly beautiful, fashioned like unto thy own. This corruptible shall put on incorruption, this mortal shall put on immortality, and inherit eternal life. Sure I am, my Redeemer will come in the clouds of heaven, and mine eyes shall behold him in his glory. With these ears shall I hear the

awful sound of the Angel's trumpet, and the songs of the blessed attendants of Christ at his coming; with my tongue I hope to praise him; with my (now) dying arms, to embrace my Saviour; and with my feet, to follow him complete in person, to his heavenly kingdom.

O Lord, I am ready to leave the world, my departure is nigh at hand; flesh and heart are failing me, and death stands waiting for his commission to strike the fatal blow; but I fear no evil, trusting that thy rod and thy staff will comfort me through the valley of the shadow of death; yea, I am persuaded I shall rise again from the grave, to behold thy majesty, and to share in thy glory, with the spirits of the just made perfect and with them unite in celebrating thy praises forevermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer of Preparation for Death.

O ALMIGHTY Lord, Father of mercies, and a God of all comfort, I flee unto thee for succor in this my great extremity, most humbly beseeching thee, to support and strengthen me in the last conflict of my life. Deliver me from the snares and terrors of the wicked one, sustain my agonies with the peaceful comforts of a quiet and good conscience, and of perfect reconciliation with thee my God. Lord, as thou bringest me nearer to thyself, so let my love, and my desires of thee be stronger. And O that it may please thee in thy abundant mercy, to afford me some sweet foretaste of future bliss, that I may

triumph even in death itself! but if in this I know not what I ask; yet at least suffer not my faith to be shaken, nor thy loving kindness to fail; and however thou dealest with this corruptible body, let my soul, I implore thee be precious in thy sight. Wash it in the blood of the lamb of God, that all its pollutions being purged and done away, it may be presented pure and without spot before thee, and be received into thy everlasting kingdom, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy only son, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen*

Short Ejaculations for the last Extremities.

I BELIEVE, blessed Jesus, that thou shalt come to be my judge; I therefore pray thee, help thy servant, whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

O make me now to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

The snares of death compass me round about, and its pains get hold upon me. Haste thee, O God, to deliver me; make haste, O Lord, to help me

Thy kingdom come, O God, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.—Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.

Lord's Prayer.

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.—*Amen.*

A Prayer on entrance in the Church.

Being now seated in thy House of Prayer, Lord, assist me I beseech thee, by thy holy spirit, in my devotional meditations and exercises, that I may render thee acceptable service, and benefit my soul, through Jesus Christ, my Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Thanksgivings after the Service.

Lord, I thank thee. for this opportunity of attending on thy solemn worship. May thy word and truths, which have been communicated to me, at this time, do me good as they do the upright in heart, and be acceptable in thy sight, through Jesus, my Lord. *Amen.*

Grace before Meat.

BLESS to us, O Lord, the benefits we are now about to receive. May we enjoy them with thankful hearts, for Christ's sake. *Amen.*

Grace after Meat.

WE thank thee, O Lord, for this portion of thy bounty, which we have now received.—May we now and at all times, acknowledge our dependence on thee, for all our enjoyments, through Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Another Grace before Meat.

LORD pardon my sins, and sanctify to me the enjoyment of these provisions of thy bountiful hand, through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

Another Grace after Meat.

LORD I thank thee that thou hast now refreshed me with the provisions of thy bounty. Make my heart truly grateful for this and all thy favors, through Jesus, my Lord. *Amen.*

THE END.

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